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FROM THE BRIGHT LEGACY.

Received MAR 8 1884

Descendants of Henry Bright, jr., who died at Watertown, Mass., in 1686, are entitled to hold scholarships in Harvard College, established in 1880 under the will of

JONATHAN BROWN BRIGHT

of Waltham, Mass., with one half the income of this Legacy. Such descendants failing, other persons are eligible to the scholarships. The will requires that this announcement shall be made in every book added to the Library under its provisions.

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Gr. Brit. —

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

OF THE

UNITED KINGDOM.

VOL. I.

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TRÜBNER & CO., LUDGATE HILL.
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No. 1.] [*January* 15, 1880.

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

Of the United Kingdom.

It has been found somewhat inconvenient that all accounts of the proceedings of the Library Association should reach members only from America, and in the course of last year a Committee was appointed to consider the question. This Committee recommended that, while the *Library Journal* should remain the official organ of the Association, it would be advisable to circulate a Monthly Report, to include announcements with other interesting information. At the Manchester meeting in September last a specimen number of "*Monthly Notes*" was distributed. The idea was favourably received, and the following resolution was passed in consequence: "That this Association approves of a monthly or quarterly journal being established, and that the Council carry it into effect if possible."

The "Notes" will be issued on the 15th of each month, and will contain a full report of the proceedings of the meetings, together with the papers read and an abstract of the discussions thereon. It is hoped that members may at once communicate any observations they may consider likely to prove of interest to their fellow-librarians, such as library-statistics or news, notes and queries concerning library work, bibliographical memoranda, situations vacant, &c. Letters, books and catalogues for review, &c., may be addressed either to the Secretaries direct, or to the Editor, care of Messrs. Trübner & Co., 57 and 59, Ludgate Hill, E.C.

These "Notes" are not intended in any way to rival the *Library Journal* but only to serve as a ready means of communication among members in this country. The "Journal" has much wider scope, and English librarians owe so much already to the spirit and enterprise of its conductors that the Council trust members will think it their duty to support that valuable professional organ to the best of their power.

Members are reminded that, besides the usual meetings on the first Friday of each month, there are meetings on each third Friday, for the consideration of the special subjects of a General Catalogue

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of English Literature, and Cataloguing Rules including Size Notation.

At the meeting on February 6, the following papers will be read: 1. "Some points to be considered in preparing Catalogues of Transactions and Periodicals," by Mr. J. B. Bailey. 2. "Dr. Priestley and his relation to Proprietary Libraries," by Mr. R. Harrison.

JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING.

The third Monthly Meeting of the third year of the Association was held at the London Institution on January 2, 1880, at 8 p.m., Mr. Robert Harrison, Treasurer, in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Chairman called on one of the Secretaries to read a paper by Mr. W. E. A. Axon, on

The Functions of a National Library, in Reply to Mr. W. P. Courtney's Article in the "Fortnightly Review."

Mr. Axon objected to the proposal to open branch libraries in London, that it would be to supply the local needs of the metropolis at the expense of the nation, and urged the establishment of local libraries at the expense of the localities, remarking on the inconvenience that would be caused if a person who came from the country to consult a scarce work at the Museum were to find that it had been removed to Bethnal Green. If the library was to be more than it is now the library of the nation, there should be an extension of the time in which it was open, and its use might be increased by correspondence. He also noticed the improvements recently introduced, and the intended publication of a list of accessions, suggested by a memorial of the Manchester Literary Club in 1875; concluding with the remark that the British Museum is great, not because it stands in Bloomsbury, but because it is the national library of a great people.

Mr. Tedder wished to know in what way the use of the British Museum is to be increased by correspondence, and asked whether the officials were to be pestered with correspondence on all subjects. —Mr. Garnett said that they already had a good deal of correspondence at the British Museum, and if it were much increased it would be necessary to have a correspondence department.—Mr. Overall mentioned a letter that he had received, asking him to send the books by bearer, as the writer was unable to come to the library to consult them.—Mr. Harrison on one occasion had received a letter asking if the "Adventures of Purley" was an interesting book!—Mr. William Blades then read his paper on

The Development of Books and their Size Notation.

Mr. Blades said: I feel some diffidence in coming before you this evening, because you, as librarians, with a daily experience of books in their various aspects and public uses, must be much more familiar with the difficulties of cataloguing all varieties of sizes, as well as

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with the actual needs of a public library, than myself. At the same time, a MAKER of books may be supposed sometimes to be more conversant with certain technical peculiarities than the custodian. There are, too, always side branches to every subject—in bibliography they are numerous—and if, by the pursuing only of one of these, you should think that I have thrown any light upon the librarian's method of working, especially in cataloguing his old books, I shall feel highly gratified. The doctrines of Development and the Survival of the Fittest have thrown floods of light upon many departments of natural history, and, I believe, may be usefully applied to the study of bibliography. The penny steam-printed volumes of to-day, although differing in all points from the vellum MSS. of the middle ages, are the lineal descendants from them, and only parted with their family likeness by degrees. It may not be a useless task just to note one or two early developments of the printed sheet, as they serve to explain apparent anomalies of signature in old books. At the time when Gutenberg was working out his typographical ideas in Mayence, the demand for books had increased so much that the manufacture of manuscripts had become an important branch of commerce, being carried on by communities of Book-makers, chiefly in Paris and Bruges. In commencing a new book the first thing was to obtain the requisite quantity of vellum from the parchementier, the sheets being of one size and thickness. The sheets were then all folded in half and put quirewise in sections of four, five, or six each, according to the size of the book. Each section was then signed at the very bottom of the first recto of each sheet before beginning to write; then, if the section had four sheets, there would be eight leaves, and the first four were signed respectively aj, aij, aiij, aiiij. The reason for signing first was to assist the manuscript writer, who used the sheets singly as he wrote, and required a plain clue to their sequence. To the binder it was simply a necessity, for he depended upon them, and them only, for the sequence of the sheets. When he had checked their proper succession and found all right, he bound the book, ploughing off the MS. signatures, which on that account are nearly always wanting in MSS. In some cases, however, these signatures may still be seen, either whole or partly cut away. The first printers were under the same necessity as the scribes, and it is interesting to note how, in the infancy of the art, they pursued the same plan, not only of cutting up their paper if they had to print a less size than folio, just as the scribe cut his vellum, but that they, too, signed every sheet in MS. at the very bottom, just as their predecessors the scribes had done. In the celebrated sale of the Perkins' Library there was an uncut copy of the "Mazarine Bible" so signed; and in the Royal Library, Windsor, is "Le Recueil des Histoires de Troye," where every sheet has a MS. signature at the very foot of the first recto. Here is a book printed about 1470, at Cologne, entitled "Eusebius de morte sancti Jeronimi," and you will see that each section is signed in manuscript, and that several have

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been cut away by the binder. It was not long, however, before the printers determined to rid themselves of that trouble by adopting the easy though ugly plan of printing the signatures at the same time as the text, and placing them immediately under the bottom line. The changed position was a matter of technical convenience, as a signature standing alone at a distance from the text would be sure to break off. What I wish to impress upon you is that signatures in some shape were necessary. The notion that books were bound without signatures is a bibliographical delusion and historically erroneous. The dates given by some writers for the first use of signatures can only apply to the period when printed signatures superseded those written by hand. The scribes had (so far as I can learn) no names for the different sizes of their vellum books. Various catalogues of great libraries in the 14th and 15th centuries have come down to us, but although the MSS. are carefully described as to the character of the writing, the illuminations and bindings, yet no sizes are affixed. In some cases, however, an approach to size is made where a great "History of the World" is called "un grand livre" and a small Horæ "un petit livre." When, however, the demand for books had given a great impetus to the paper-makers, and when, just before the invention of printing, the more common books were written upon paper, then for the first time the sub-division of sheets into 4to, 8vo, or 16mo, came into use. As with vellum so with paper, the scribes cutting up the material of both to size before using it. And as with the scribes so with the early printers, who also cut up their sheets first if they printed smaller than folio. Soon, however, a development took place in the direction of cheapness, and the printers devised a plan of printing four 4to pages at a time instead of two, by making a double pull—that is, by printing two pages by the first pull, and then, without lifting the tympan, rolling the table further in and pulling the other two. This developed a form of signature which has been a trial to a good many bibliographers, who have puzzled themselves when finding a 4to volume signed on the first and third rectos only. When this occurs, which is but seldom, it is evidence that the sheets were printed whole and so arranged that, when folded, one sheet should quire within the other; thus making for a 4to, eight leaves, but with the first recto only of each sheet signed. Take two sheets and fold in 4to, and sign the first recto of each, and you obtain naturally a signature on the 1st and 3rd rectos, quite sufficient as a guide to the binder. The plan, however, most commonly adopted was to sign every recto as far as the centre of the quire, and to leave the other rectos unsigned. When, as in the infancy of the art, the printer cut up his paper, before printing, to 4to or 8vo, and then printed only two pages at a time, this was necessary; but a custom once established has great vitality, and so for a long time the same method of signing was retained, even though, the eight leaves being all part of one sheet and printed at the same time, this excess of signing was un-

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necessary. Here is "The Dialogue of Comfort," printed in 1573, in 8vo, and in whole sheets, yet it is signed on the four first rectos. The Aldus family do not seem to have printed smaller than 8vo, but the Elzevirs and Plantins used 8vo and 12mo abundantly, still keeping the old fashion of signing. We may here notice another peculiarity of signature, often seen, and that is, signing the first five leaves of a quire and leaving the last three unsigned. That is, the central sheet was signed on both rectos, and this told the binder that it *was* the central sheet, and that he need not examine further. As, then, folio, 4to, 8vo, and even smaller books were signed and collated in sections of eight leaves each, it is quite evident that, however satisfactory to the binder, it cannot serve in any way as a guide to the size of the book. The tendency to print small books developed another practice which ought to be recognised and understood. We will say that it is decided to print a volume in 24mo—well, there is no reason why the whole side of the sheet should not be printed at once, so we will fold this sheet of foolscap into folio, first of all, then into three, making a 6to, then into two, and two again, making a 24mo. Now here the back is evidently too cumbersome for so small a size, and, as the paper cannot be cut in half, we must cut it into three, and then folding each third into eight we get three small quires, each of eight leaves, and each signed on the first four rectos,a favourite form in the 17th century.

[The remainder of this paper and the discussion thereon will appear in our next number.]

LIBRARY NOTES.

Corporation Library, Guildhall.—During the year 1879 this library was open on 250 days from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and on 51 days from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Total, 301 days. The number of readers up to 5 p.m. was 108,495; from 5 to 9 p.m., 32,415; total, 140,910.

Ortelius' Correspondence.—Among the manuscripts belonging to the Library of the Dutch Church, now deposited in the Corporation Library, Guildhall, is a collection of the unpublished correspondence of Abraham Ortelius, the famous geographer, comprising more than 300 letters written by Ortelius himself and many eminent contemporaries. The Consistory of the Church have determined to print these letters, and have made arrangements to have them transcribed for the press.

London Institution.—Mr. Parr's ingenious card ledger, exhibited at the Manchester meeting, was put in use on the 1st of December, and has fully realized all expectations. Even in point of rapidity it is found to be distinctly superior to the written ledger, and its superiority is particularly manifest at those times of pressure when its break-down seemed possible.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.—A new catalogue of the library of this society (including the catalogue of the North British Branch Library) has been prepared by Mr. J. W. Knapman,

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the librarian, and is now passing through the press. It is on the dictionary system, author and subject entries and cross references under one alphabet. The library contains about 7,000 volumes and pamphlets, principally on materia medica and the accessory sciences, as botany, chemistry, &c.

Society of Telegraph Engineers.—The valuable and unique library belonging to this society, and formed by the late Sir Francis Ronalds, F.R.S., is now in course of binding, and when finished will be opened for reference.

It will be remembered that at the meeting in September, 1878, Mr. Frost, the librarian of the society, read an interesting paper giving an account of this library and its catalogue, which not only describes the books in the library, but forms a complete bibliography of electricity and magnetism. After due consideration, it has been decided to bind the works in half-morocco and cloth, with raised bands, lettered with the author's name, title, and the words "Ronalds Library." The pamphlets will be bound in volumes, in chronological order, as far as their size will allow. The use of buckram was duly considered; but, though some catalogues are to be bound in that material as an experiment, Mr. Frost was not disposed to recommend its adoption for all books in the library. The printing of the catalogue has proceeded as far as the letter M (about 400 pages), and before distributing the type, a small edition on large paper, on one side only, will be printed for the use of librarians. The work has been much delayed, owing to the difficulty of referring to the books and pamphlets in their present condition.

Horncastle Mechanics' Institute.—The "Combined" Charging System by Cards of Mr. J. Schwartz, New York Apprentices' Library (*Lib. Jour.* v. 4, pp. 275–7), has been introduced in this library, and works very satisfactorily. The bequest of the late H. Fielding, Esq., consisting of £100, has been the means of considerably augmenting the standard reference works in the library.

Lincoln Library.—This library, which has a very good collection of local pamphlets, &c., is suffering from the usual complaint so often heard of in old-fashioned towns, viz., inaptness on the part of the Managing Committee to keep up with the times, and relying upon rules which are singularly inappropriate to the present age. A select Committee has been formed to consider the position of the library, and the best mode of increasing its popularity and usefulness.

Worcester.—Mr. Samuel Smith, of Leeds, has been appointed Librarian to the newly-established Free Library. The Corporation has purchased the building, collections, books, and pictures belonging to the Natural History Society for £2,820. These collections, with the 11,000 volumes already purchased from the old City Library, will afford the new Librarian an unusual amount of good material upon which to begin work, and the people of Worcester may be congratulated on the success attending the adoption of the Acts.

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BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

At the end of the Journal published by the Royal Microscopical Society is now given a classified index to the current papers on microscopical science, contained in upwards of three hundred British and Foreign Scientific Journals and Transactions, with abstracts of some of the more important ones.

The Editor of the *Journal of Science* (monthly, formerly the *Quarterly Journal of Science*) announces that he has determined to incorporate with it a Subject-Index to the leading English and Foreign Scientific Journals, with a separate paging; and invites practical suggestions from those experienced in making such indexes.

The third part (E–L) of the Subject-Index to the "Catalogue général de la Librairie Française, depuis 1840, par O. Lorenz," has just been issued.

ASTRONOMY.—The prospectus has been issued of a "Bibliographie générale de l'Astronomie, ou Catalogue méthodique des Ouvrages, des Mémoires, et des Observations Astronomiques, publiés depuis l'origine de l'imprimerie jusqu'en 1880, par J. C. Houzeau, directeur, et A. Lancaster, bibliothécaire de l'Observatoire Royal de Bruxelles." The work will be published by subscription, and will consist of three volumes, devoted respectively to books, memoirs, and observations. To judge from the specimen, the books appear to be carefully described and the classification seems minute and easily followed. An idea of the extent of the undertaking may be gathered from the fact that the "Catalogue of Scientific Papers" contributes no less than 16,000 articles, and the "Repertorium Commentationum" of Reuss as many as 4,000.

CRAY-FISH.—Professor Huxley's recent work on the Cray-fish contains a classified bibliography of the books and memoirs treating the subject.

SERVETUS.—M. Ch. Dardier contributes a bibliography of the works by and connected with Servetus, in a recent translation of "Michel Servet: Portrait-caractère, par Henri Tollin, pasteur à Magdebourg." Herr Tollin has himself written altogether no less than 34 books, pamphlets, and separate articles relating to Servetus.

PSEUDONYMS.—In a letter to the *Times* of January 5th, Mr. J. Pinchbeck, C.E., explains that "Sir Eward Seaward's narrative" was only looked through by Miss Jane Porter, the reputed editor, the work having been written by her brother, Dr. Porter, of Bristol, in conjunction with a lady of their acquaintance, the widow of Colonel Booth. In the same number of the *Times*, the author of "The Little Pilgrim" is stated to be Mary Metford Thomas, who wrote the work in, or about, 1843. The Mrs. Helen Petrie, whose name is mentioned on the title of the book, has only edited and revised the work.

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QUERIES.

LIBRARY LADDERS.—All library ladders I have yet seen are either dangerous or clumsy. Can any ingenious reader devise a ladder that shall be at once safe and handy? H. R. T.

SIZE NOTATION.—The word "size" to indicate the dimensions of a book also serves in English for the "format." Would not some of the misunderstandings of size notation be done away with if we adopted the word "form" in technically describing the size or arrangement of the sheets and signatures, while restricting "size" to indicate actual outside height, breadth, and thickness?

H. R. T.

BOOK TAG.—What is the best form of book tag that will answer the following conditions? 1. Adhere closely, especially under the action of friction and heat. 2. Thin in material, and yet durable in wear and tear. J. C. H.

PAROCHIAL LIBRARIES.—What has become of the Parochial Lending Library established by the Rev. H. B. Wilson, D.D., in the parishes of St. Mary Aldermary, and St. Thomas the Apostle? A catalogue was issued in 1851. SUPER OMNES.

BOOK WANTED.—Can any of your correspondents inform me if the "History and Antiquities of the Parish and Church of St. Michael, Crooked Lane, London," has ever been completed? I have three parts ending p. 240; no author nor date of publication given. SUPER OMNES.

AUTHORS WANTED.—Who was the author of "A Present for an Apprentice . . . by a late Lord Mayor of London," 8vo, London. (?) The fifth edition was published in 1747, and an earlier one, probably the first, in Nov. 1739. C. C.

Is the Christian name of Miss Marsh, authoress of the "Life of Captain Hedley Vicars," Catherine or Caroline? Catalogue authorities differ on this point. C. C.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LIBRARIANS AND THE PURCHASE OF BOOKS.

Sir,—In his Inaugural Address at the London Conference in 1877, Mr. J. Winter Jones, then principal librarian of the British Museum, strongly urged the propriety of library committees giving to their librarians a vote in the purchase of books. Might I suggest that the Association as a body should take some means of recommending this course to committees,

I am, &c.,

January, 1880. A LIBRARIAN.

London: TRÜBNER & CO., Ludgate Hill.

Single Numbers, Threepence each. Annual Subscription, post free, 3s. 6d.

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No. 2.] [*February* 14, 1880.

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

THE Committee on Indicators will be glad to receive from librarians information on the following points respecting their use of indicators:—1. The system adopted by them. 2. Opinion as to its working. 3. General remarks.—Communications to be addressed to Mr. J. D. MULLINS, Birmingham Free Library.

At the meeting on March 5, a paper will be read, on "Librarians and ancient Parish Registers," by Mr. T. W. SHORE, of the Hartley Institution, Southampton.

JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING.

[*Continued from page* 5.]

THE real test for size of all books before 1800 (except a very few in the last years of the 18th century) is the water-mark and the chain wires. Observe this paper-mould—an original foolscap mould with the cap and bells. You will see that the fine wires, or "laid lines," are held in place by the stout wires, called "chain wires," because they are chained down on the mould. In the centre of one half other stout wires are arranged to make the water-mark. Where these lines stand above the surrounding laid wires the paper pulp is thinner, and this thinness by its transparency makes the lines we see in all laid papers. This mould is a sample of all moulds for laid papers. Now, here notice the important fact that all paper-moulds produce a sheet which, when held with the water-mark in its natural position, has a certain number of perpendicular chain lines across the narrow part of the sheet. Fold the sheet in half, and we see at once the water-mark in the centre of one half and the chain wires running down—that is folio. Fold again, and we have the water-mark in the back, and the chain wires across the page—that is 4to. In a similar manner, 8vo gives us the water-mark at the top, and the chain wires running down. Smaller sizes are more intricate, but with a little attention can be as easily recognised. Now, for all this large class of books here is a real and true test. It is easy of application, because we have only to mark a few down lines on a sheet of common note-paper, and by folding it to any size, we see at once where the chain wires for that size must come, as well as where the water-mark will fall. The objection to this plan is the apparent

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contradiction in nomenclature to which it leads. Thus, the 4to of a large sheet may stand taller than a small folio, while certain 8vos will overtop certain 4tos. This is true, but it need not, I think, lead to any confusion. In the matter of size-notation the evidences afforded by the wires of the paper-mould are *some* of the natural laws in the science of books. In this portion of bibliography we have fixed laws; the sizes of all these books are simply natural facts, and not the haphazard productions of a capricious printer, and we have no more the right than we have the power to alter them. It is because this law has not been attended to that our greatest bibliographers have made such mistakes as have driven students to despair. Here, for instance, is a true 4to book, as proved by the water-mark and chain lines—the "Aretinus de Bello Italico," by Jenson, of Venice, in 1471; and yet all the authorities call it a folio because it appears so to the eye. Even the accurate Van Praet erred in the size of a book printed by his hero, Colard Mansion, and, because the volume had been much cropped, called the "Purgatoire des Mauvais Maris" a small 4to, when the water-marks prove it to be the common folio used by that printer. This seductive, but deceptive, plan of eye-measurement has been a fruitful source of error in our catalogues. This volume, the "Effigies virorum doctorum," Antwerp, 1572, would be catalogued generally as a small 4to, but other copies of the same book are folio, and if we examine this we shall find the down chain wires and the water-mark in the middle—it should therefore be entered as small folio, much cropped. Let it be understood that our old printers used paper as large as medium or demy, like the great Gutenburg Bible, and as small as pott—a paper much in vogue in the 17th century—and we at once have a scale giving an idea of size near enough for general cataloguing. Medium and demy will give a large folio, large 4to, &c.; the posts will give without any prefix folio, 4to, and 8vo, and foolscap and pott will give small folio, small 4to, small 8vo, &c. The introduction of any arbitrary system of measurement to denote the sizes of all, including old books, would lead to dire confusion as to identity of edition, and the utmost good it would effect would be a slight saving of time by mechanically measuring instead of intelligently cataloguing. On such a plan no two catalogues would agree, though made on the same system; for we meet the same volume in all stages of bad treatment, and we should find a folio of one collection appearing as an 8vo in another. Whatever system may be adopted for the abnormal no-sized books of the modern steam press, let us hold to the natural system of notation by the paper where we can. This is permanent, however ill-treated the volume may have been. Cropping may altogether change the look of a book, but it can never eliminate those signs of size which must form the true scientific basis of all correct description.

I have but little to say about the size-notation of recent books. About 1750, Baskerville, by a modification of the paper-mould, did away with the chain wires and water-marks, making what was

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styled vellum paper, because it was without any marks and well rolled. This paper, after some years, became the fashion for finely printed books, and in them we lose our old data for determining size by water-marks; but at that time, fortunately, the old-fashioned odd sizes of a previous generation had gone out of use, and there being now but one signature to a sheet and no quiring, the signatures show the size with sufficient ease. Thus, at this period, eight leaves show 8vo, twelve leaves 12mo, and so on. About 1800, the paper machine was invented, and gradually improved until paper fine enough for book-work was produced. This ushered in great confusion as to sizes, for publishers demanded paper to so many inches, irrespective of the old sizes, while printers were able to print sheets four times as large as of yore. So it has come to pass that development in the manufacture of paper, and in the accuracy and capabilities of our printing machines, has so completely changed the processes by which the modern book is made, that the technical terms which accurately defined to past generations the sizes of books have no longer any definite meaning. Papers are made by the mile and cut up to eighths of an inch, obeying no law but the caprice of the consumer, and to catalogue such papers by the fold, would compel us to call the *Athenæum*, for instance (supposing it to agree with any old size), a quad super-royal 16mo. Papers made in moulds of fixed sizes can have nothing in common with such anomalous products, and no system will ever be devised which will adapt a true notation to suit both old and new volumes. Some librarians, of weight and authority, advocate a metrical scale and the measurement of every volume. This extreme accuracy seems to me uncalled for; surely it is near enough for any reader or borrower to be told that the book he requires is a large, middling, or small 8vo. Size-notation by measurement must to a great extent render catalogues untrue outside their own library, and so long as binders form a necessary part of a librarian's staff, the size of books issued the same day will not remain constant. Even if all librarians determined henceforth never to allow any book to be ploughed, they cannot recall the past; and unless uniformity of treatment for both old and new can be arranged on some intelligible basis, the uprooting of our old nomenclature by the proposed revolution seems hardly warrantable. As modern development has landed the great majority of our modern books outside any natural law, I would respectfully suggest that the most philosophical plan will be to treat them as near as we can upon the old basis, and, whatever the true size, or rather no size of the modern book may be, to call it after that size of the old real notation to which it may be nearest.

Mr. TEDDER called attention to the confusion arising from the use of "size" to denote "format," and suggested "form."—Prof. W. S. JEVONS asked whether the system proposed would apply to modern books?—Mr. BLADES said it would, to all books on hand-made paper; with others it would seem that the only way would be to take the apparent size.—Mr. WALFORD asked whether size-nota-

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tion was for library purposes only?—Mr. HARRISON said that there were two objects, one to guide to the discovery of the book on the shelf, the other as to the edition.—Mr. OVERALL thought that the best mode was to keep to the old notation, and when that failed take apparent size; a person who asks for a book seldom cares about the size of the volume.—Mr. GARNETT considered this a difficult subject, and thought it better to keep to the signatures. At the British Museum the size is of little use in finding the books. If undertaking the subject *de novo*, he would say follow signatures and give size separately. Henceforth the number of pages will be given in the British Museum catalogue.

Votes of thanks to Messrs. AXON and BLADES for their papers were carried unanimously.

FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING.

THE fourth Monthly Meeting of the third year of the Association was held at the London Institution on February 6, 1880, at 8 p.m., Mr. B. R. WHEATLEY in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. R. HARRISON read a paper on "Dr. Priestley and his relation to Proprietary Libraries," which will be printed in full in our next number.

The CHAIRMAN then called on the Secretary to read the following paper by Mr. J. B. BAILEY, on

SOME POINTS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PREPARING CATALOGUES OF TRANSACTIONS AND PERIODICALS.

There are some points on which there seems to be no agreement among cataloguers; this is well illustrated by the fact that the three most recent catalogues of scientific transactions and periodicals are arranged on different plans. It therefore seemed desirable to bring the subject before the Association, in order to provoke a discussion which would enable the Committee on Title-entries to add some rules to those submitted to the Manchester meeting. The three catalogues referred to are:—1. Catalogue of Scientific Serials, 1633-1876, by S. H. Scudder, Cambridge, U.S., 1879, 8vo. 2. Catalogue of the Library of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London, by B. R. Wheatley, London, 1879, 3 vols., 8vo; vol. 2, containing transactions of societies, journals, &c. 3. Catalogue of the Library of the Museum of Practical Geology and Geological Survey, by H. White and T. W. Newton, London, 1878, 8vo. Mr. Scudder's catalogue contains serial publications only; Mr. Wheatley's and Messrs. White and Newton's are general catalogues of their respective libraries, including books as well as serials. Messrs. White and Newton have arranged their serials under the two headings of "Journals" and "Transactions of Societies," alphabetically placed under J and T respectively. Mr. Wheatley divides them into "Transactions of Societies," "Journals, Magazines, Reviews," and "Reports," but puts them all together at the end of the catalogue. In this respect I think Mr. Scudder's

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arrangement preferable; he draws no distinction between transactions and journals; and in using a catalogue prepared on his plan the reader has not first to consider the head under which the compiler would be most likely to enter the object of his search. This is a real difficulty, as may be proved from Messrs. White and Newton's catalogue, for there we find the Journal published by the Godeffroy Museum treated as a "Journal," and the Mittheilungen issued by the Museum at Dresden entered under "Transactions." Hospital reports would in most catalogues be found under "Transactions," but some might consider them "Journals;" Mr. Wheatley has chosen a third heading, "Reports," with a note under "Hospitals" in "Transactions," stating that they "are placed in the catalogue of reports as being more agreeable bibliographically to the wording of their title-pages." These differences make a catalogue more difficult to use than if the entries were in alphabetical order without respect to "Transactions" or "Journals." The difficulty of using the British Museum catalogue, where transactions and periodicals are put under various headings, is forcibly pointed out in an article in *Nature*, of Jan. 16, 1879, reprinted in the *Library Journal*, vol. 4, p. 161. In that article there is a complaint of the quantity of material that must be waded through to come to the transactions or proceedings of the society, and I think it would be well to obtain the opinion of the Association as to what should be entered in a catalogue of transactions under the head of each society. Should the catalogues of their libraries be entered under the head of "Transactions"? Mr. Wheatley and Messrs. White and Newton say "Yes," Mr. Scudder says "No," and I for one agree with Mr. Scudder. The proper place for the catalogue of any library seems to me to be under the name of the society in the general catalogue, with a cross-reference from "Catalogues," or *vice versa*. The plan of Messrs. Newton and White is very confusing, as the information is scattered about the volume without any system of cross-references. Again, should rules of a society, list of members, &c., be entered as "Transactions"? I would again venture to say "No," and suggest that they should be placed in the body of the catalogue. One objection to this arrangement is the inconvenience of looking in two places to find a complete list of what has been published by any society; but, in reply to this, I would ask how many people refer to a catalogue for this purpose, compared with those who wish to find the transactions, journals, or memoirs? Another objection is, that in catalogues where the transactions and journals take their place in the general alphabet it would be impossible to have two headings. To meet this difficulty, I would suggest that the transactions, journals, proceedings or memoirs, should always stand first after the name of the society. This would prevent the inconvenience spoken of by the writer in *Nature*, before referred to, who complained that in the British Museum Catalogue, "First are given the press-marks of charter, laws, bye-laws, notices of annual meetings, lists of members, and such like things, and page after page has to be turned over to get to the publications of the society. If there

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are two sets of publications, such as 4to transactions and an 8vo journal, these are generally separated by some pages of other references." If more evidence is required of the inconvenience caused by this mode of cataloguing, it can be obtained in plenty from Messrs. White and Newton's catalogue. But perhaps the most curious transaction recorded by Messrs. White and Newton, is that on page 544, under the heading "London." It runs thus: "Museum Regalis Societatis; whereunto is subjoined the Comparative Anatomy of Stomachs and Guts, folio, London, 1681." And this is not, so far as I can make out, entered anywhere else in the catalogue, although the author's name, Nehemiah Grew, appears on the title-page. Another question is, what should be done with those societies which do not issue any transactions or proceedings, but publish a regular account of their meetings in some other journal? Mr. Wheatley and Mr. Scudder give, under the name of the society, a reference to the journal containing its proceedings. This is so obviously right that the point may be thought hardly worth notice; but, as Messrs. White and Newton have not done this, the practice cannot be said to be universal. In Mr. Wheatley's catalogue we are told exactly where we shall find the proceedings of the Royal Microscopical Society, and in Mr. Scudder's we can find the information by cross-references; but Messrs. White and Newton have no entry of the society, although their library has the *Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science*, which up to 1868 contained the official report of the proceedings; so that a reader knowing that a paper had been read before the Royal Microscopical Society, and using Messrs. White and Newton's catalogue to see if he could obtain it in their library, would come to the conclusion that he was unable to do so, unless he was aware that the society had no separate proceedings; and from the number of times I have been asked for the proceedings of the Royal Microscopical Society I can say with certainty that many students are unaware of the fact, or perhaps I should say were unaware, as the society has lately started a journal of its own. Another point where I venture to think the catalogue of Messrs. White and Newton is faulty is in not giving cross-references where a periodical has changed its name; this is generally done, and I would suggest that a rule to this effect should be added to those prepared by the Committee of this Association. An instance is to be found at p. 270 of the last-mentioned catalogue, the *Annalen der Chemie*, afterwards called *Liebig's Annalen;* but there are no cross-references, and as the original title, *Annalen der Pharmacie*, was discontinued in 1839, there are very few students who would look under this head to find what for some years has been generally known as *Liebig's Annalen*. When a journal has acquired a popular name, a cross-reference should be given from that to the actual title. *The American Journal of Science and Arts* is frequently referred to as *Silliman's Journal*, but is not so entered in Messrs. White and Newton's catalogue, so that it is quite useless to a reader who does not know the exact title. There seems also to be a variety of prac-

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tice as to the arrangement of the different titles that a periodical has taken. Should the entries follow on after the original title with a cross-reference from each new one; or should each new title take its place in the alphabet with a series of cross-references under the first title? There is something to be said in favour of each plan—the former shows the history of the periodical at a glance, while under the latter it has to be worked up from the cross-references; but for my own part I prefer the latter, because the last title is the one under which it is usually referred to. This is the plan adopted by Mr. Wheatley, whilst Messrs. White and Newton and Mr. Scudder follow the former rule, and anyone using the ,hree catalogues will, I think, soon come to the conclusion that Mr. Wheatley's is by far the easiest in this respect. There remains another important point. Rule 30 of the Committee on Title-entries, that "A society is to be entered under the first word, not an article, of its corporate name, with references from any other name by which it is known, and from the name of the place where its head-quarters are established," is, I think, the best way of managing transactions, except that prefixes such as "Royal," "Königliche," &c., should be omitted; and Rule 17, that periodicals shall be entered under the first word, not an article, of their titles, cannot, in my humble opinion, be improved upon. Mr. Scudder differs from both these rules in arranging transactions and periodicals under the place of publication. In his preface he owns that this is an error as regards transactions, and says that they should be entered under the place where the society is established. But the plan recommended by the Committee seems much more convenient, because it is not always easy to find out where a society is located. Messrs. White and Newton place their transactions under the towns where they are published, with no cross-references, so that the Meteorological Society of Great Britain and Ireland appears under "Truro," and nowhere else in the catalogue. This is doubly troublesome for periodicals, because the title is hardly ever any guide to the place of printing. It may appear waste of time to discuss this, but it ought not to be passed over, because so competent a cataloguer as Mr. Scudder has arranged his catalogue in this manner and gives this reason: "The plan here adopted of entering all serial publications, independent or otherwise, under the place of publication (or location), seems far better than arranging them by the first word of the title. For societies the first plan can only be defended. For independent journals it is also better: first, to secure uniformity in the mode of entering all serial publications, and because it is often difficult to decide whether a journal is independent or not; and second, because of the time required to pass the eye over all the various 'Journaux,' 'Zeitschriften,' or 'Magazines,' to find the one sought; while in the abbreviated form in which these appear in the index of titles, this is far easier and answers every alphabetical purpose." I cannot help thinking that Mr. Scudder has exaggerated the difficulties that would have befallen users of his catalogue if the different

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periodicals had been entered under their titles instead of under their place of publication. Take the case of those periodicals that would have appeared under "Journals." I have chosen this because it is an extreme case, the word being the same in English, German, and French, There are 90 periodicals in Mr. Scudder's catalogue beginning with journal, and their titles would have occupied about four printed pages; surely if these had been properly arranged in alphabetical order, there could have been no difficulty in finding any particular one. Another reason given by Mr. Scudder is that his system shows "at a glance how prolific the different book-marts have been, or how enterprising the publishers or editors in some small country town." But, interesting as this information may be, it does not seem worth while to sacrifice the utility of the catalogue for its sake; and, besides, it might have been shown in an index of towns similar to the one Mr. Scudder has appended to his catalogue. Mr. Wheatley has arranged his periodicals according to the L. A. U. K. plan, and I venture to say that any reader can get the information he is searching after, in this catalogue, without any index or guide, and with very little trouble.

Mr. B. R. WHEATLEY said that in the old catalogue of his society transactions were dispersed under Abhandlungen, Comptes Rendus, Memoirs, &c., which seemed so incongruous that he adopted the present method.—Mr. KNAPMAN stated that in his new catalogue the plan was to take the first word of the title of the society, other than an article, and put it in its alphabetical place, with cross-references under subjects and places of head-quarters, and sometimes under titles. With anonymous works and periodicals he took the first word other than an article, with cross-references to them under the subjects. Periodicals which changed their name were put under one name, thus *Liebig's Annalen* under *Annalen*, as the title of the first part in the library, with cross-references under "Liebig" and the subjects "Chemistry" and "Pharmacy." This was in accordance with Mr. Cutter's rules.—Mr. H. B. WHEATLEY said that the difference was that books are complete, but with transactions we cannot be certain, and much confusion is avoided by keeping them apart from ordinary books. Transactions should be arranged geographically and journals under names. Catalogues could hardly be considered ordinary books. As to editors, *Liebig's Annalen* had been called by his name for years, but his name had not appeared on the title-page until within a year or so. Geographical names would be best arranged alphabetically.—Mr. WELCH thought that the balance of convenience lay in arranging transactions with other books, for, having no author, the society was regarded as the author.—Mr. B. R. WHEATLEY objected to general headings as creating an alphabet within an alphabet.

Votes of thanks to Messrs. HARRISON and BAILEY for their papers were then proposed and carried unanimously.

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No. 3.] [*March* 15, 1880.

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

At the Meeting on Friday, April 2, a paper will be read by Mr. B. R. Wheatley, "Thoughts on Title-taking, trite, trivial, or tentative. No. 1."

The following paper by Mr. R. Harrison, Treasurer, was read at the February monthly meeting.

DR. PRIESTLEY AND HIS RELATION TO PROPRIETARY LIBRARIES.

Dr. Priestley is one among many remarkable Englishmen who have not received the full meed of fame due to their great powers and considerable achievements. Quite lately, indeed, the monument erected to his memory in Birmingham, scarce six years ago, and the illumination it received from the eloquent oration pronounced by Professor Huxley at its unveiling, has in some degree redeemed Englishmen from the disgraceful charge of neglecting one of their true worthies. If we examine with any attention the published records of Priestley's life, especially his correspondence, we shall find that he was not only a man of science, earnestly engaged in the investigation of electrical phenomena, the composition of air, the nature of oxygen, and other mysteries of the physical world, but that he was a social and religious reformer, a staunch advocate of toleration and liberty in matters both political and religious. Unfortunately for him, and as I venture to think, for his country, he became a martyr to his faith and was driven from his native land by the force of that prejudice which arose from the reactionary panic in England caused by the outbreak of the French Revolution. The outrages committed in Birmingham in July, 1791, by a Church and King mob, involved the destruction of Priestley's chapel and his dwelling-house, with all his books, manuscripts, and philosophical instruments. He bore the calamity with philosophical calmness, and was in some degree consoled by numerous tributes of sympathy from friends and admirers at home and abroad. In a letter addressed to him by Condorcet in the name of the French Academy of Sciences, he is told that "he is

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not the first friend of liberty that has thus suffered; that opponents like his, arm prejudices against him when they dare not arm the laws, and that what they had done in his case was the noblest homage that tyranny dare render to probity, to talents, and to courage." Still the blow was too severe. After a short residence at Clapton, where he maintained an active correspondence with many distinguished persons, he sent his three sons to America in the autumn of 1793, and in the following spring he and his wife followed them, four years after the death of the friend he in many respects, morally and intellectually, resembled—Benjamin Franklin.

After these few words on Dr. Priestley's public life, I wish briefly to draw your attention to his equally enlightened though more private labours as a promoter and administrator of libraries. Unfortunately there is little material to be found for an account of this unobtrusive work of the philosopher. He is known to have been personally connected with three subscription or proprietary libraries—one at Warrington, established in 1760; that of Leeds, founded in 1768; and with the Old Library at Birmingham in 1779, whose centenary was celebrated two months ago. The library at Warrington was started a year before the appointment of Priestley, then 28 years old, as teacher of languages in the academy there. He became a member of the library committee, and took an active part in the administration of its affairs. Mr. Madeley, the librarian of the Warrington Museum, has kindly searched for me the minute-book of the Old Library, now attached to the Museum. He informs me that Dr. Priestley served on the Committee of the library from March, 1763, to May, 1767. Fellow-committeemen with him were the Rev. J. Saddon, rector of the academy; Dr. Barnes, rector after its removal to Manchester; and Dr. Owen, rector of the parish, and author of a translation of Juvenal and Persius. The library was founded in May, 1760, and was one of the results of the establishment in Warrington of the celebrated Dissenting Academy. The minute-book contains little interesting matter, the most remarkable thing about it being, as often happens in such matters, "the imperfection of the record." There is no copy of the rules then in force, nor list of subscribers, nor any catalogue earlier than 1784. The librarian was William Eyres, a printer of some celebrity, and a rival, in the excellence and importance of his works, of Baskerville and Foulis. The institution was called "The Warrington Circulating Library," and continued to exist independently until 1848, when it was taken over by the Corporation on the establishment of the Museum, and is still carried on as a department of the same. "One of our MS. treasures," writes Mr. Madeley, "is a volume of Dr. Priestley's letters (1791–1802), an account of which appeared in the Memoirs of the Lancashire and Cheshire Historic Society, Vol. VII., 1855. Characteristic extracts are impossible; the lists of books ordered contain nothing remarkable, and are evidently incomplete. There is no mention of Priestley's name, except in the list of the committee."

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The second Proprietary Library that Dr. Priestley was connected with was at Leeds, whither he went in 1767 to be minister of Mill Hill Chapel. Here he remained six years, "very happy," he writes, "with a liberal, friendly, and harmonious congregation." While here a proposal was made to him to accompany Captain Cook in his second voyage to the South Seas—a proposal he was willing to accept, until informed by Mr. Banks that some clergymen in the Board of Longitude objected to him on account of his religious principles. The Leeds Proprietary Library was formed in 1768, and Dr. Priestley was an active promoter and a member of its first committee. I will only add here with regard to the Leeds Library, that it contains among its many valuable printed books eight volumes of MS. connected with the history and genealogy of Yorkshire and Lancashire, in the handwriting of Thomas Wilson, F.S.A., which were presented by his son.

In 1772 Priestley was tempted, by an offer made through his friend Dr. Price, to accept the office of librarian to the Earl of Shelburne, afterwards Marquis of Lansdowne, with whom he remained seven years. A letter he wrote from Leeds to Dr. Price in August, 1772, explains the position he took in this, to him, novel position of librarian. "On Saturday last, Lord Shelburne, as you gave me reason to expect, called upon me, and he explained and enforced his proposal in such a manner that I own I am much disposed to comply with it. He said he never thought of settling upon me less than £200 per annum for life, and would do as much more as you and myself should think reasonable. So we agreed on the sum mentioned in your letter, £250. Besides, I am to have a house adjoining to his own in town, and another very near his seat in the country." The terms formally agreed upon were, that Priestley should receive £250 per annum, a house to live in, and a certainty for life in case of the decease of Lord Shelburne, or of their separation during his life. On May 16th, 1772, he preached his farewell sermon at Mill Hill Chapel, and in June was established at Calne. "In this situation," he writes in his Memoirs, "I continued seven years, spending the summer with my family at Calne, and a great part of the winter in his lordship's house in London. My office was nominally that of librarian, but I had little employment as such besides arranging his books, taking a catalogue of them and of his manuscripts, which were numerous, and making an index to his collection of private papers. In fact I was with him as a friend." He was allowed every facility for carrying on his literary and scientific pursuits, and Lord Shelburne paid £40 a year towards the expenses he incurred in his experiments. This lasted till 1780, when Mr. William Petty, a son of Lord Shelburne, whose education Dr. Priestley superintended, died, and some time after, when Dr. Priestley incurred popular odium by the publication of his "Disquisitions relative to Matter and Spirit," he began to think that he observed evident marks of dissatisfaction on the part of Lord Shelburne, who finally intimated to Dr. Price that he wished to give his friend an establishment in Ireland. "This," says he,

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"gave me an opportunity of acquainting him that if he chose to dissolve the connexion, it should be on the terms expressed in the writings which we mutually signed when it was formed, in consequence of which I should be entitled to an annuity of £150 and then I would provide for myself, and to this he readily acceded. He told Dr. Price that he wished our separation to be amicable and I assured him that nothing should be wanting on my part to make it truly so. When I left him I asked him whether he had any fault to find with my conduct and he said *none*. His lordship's enemies have insinuated that he was not punctual in the payment of my annuity; but the contrary is true."

On leaving Lord Shelburne in 1780, Priestley went to reside near Birmingham and was soon invited to minister to a congregation of Unitarians in that town. A subscription library, on a very small scale, had been established there in the previous year, and Dr. Priestley was promptly invited to become a member of the committee of management. How small was the beginning of this now important library may be gathered from the statement authentically made, that "originally one box held all the books." For some years a single room sufficed for books and subscribers, and twenty years elapsed before the old part of the present library in Union Street was built in 1799, the necessary funds being raised by a tontine. The new portion of the building was erected in 1845 to accommodate the largely increased number both of books and proprietors. Of the original nineteen subscribers all were dissenters but one. Gradually, however, Churchmen joined the society, and helped to make it a success. The scheme was based on broad principles, to supply readers with books which few private persons could afford to buy. "The progress of the library," says Mr. Timmins in his excellent monograph on the centenary of the Birmingham Library, "seems at first to have been slow, and its history obscure, but on the arrival of Dr. Priestley at Birmingham its real prosperity commenced. . His experience of a similar library at Leeds, and his characteristic energy and enthusiasm, were given to the young institution. He not only wrote the various advertisements which appeared, but he drew up a code of laws on the principle adopted at Leeds, and the best testimony to their merit is that they have been substantially unchanged for a hundred years." The subscribers rapidly increased, each paying an entrance fee of one guinea, and an annual subscription of six shillings. The smallness of the subscription is the only possible explanation of the paltriness of the librarian's salary—ten pounds a year! This stinginess Dr. Priestley, after the generous treatment he received at Bowood, though but nominally as a librarian, ought not to have permitted. In one of the advertisements alluded to above Priestley's largeness of view comes out strikingly. After stating that the library is formed on the plan of one first established at Liverpool, and which had been adopted at Manchester, Leeds, and many other considerable towns in the kingdom, he adds: "The books are never to be sold or distributed; and from the nature of the institution the

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library must increase till it contains all the most valuable publications in the English language; and from the easy terms of admission it will be a treasure of knowledge both to the present and succeeding ages. . . . This institution can never answer the purpose of any party, civil or religious, but, on the contrary, may be expected to promote a spirit of liberality and friendship among all classes of men without distinction." Poor man! his hopes were not altogether realised when twelve years later a Birmingham mob destroyed his house and property. Let us hope that among those who hounded on the rioters, or those who, according to Mackintosh, "uttered language against him at which Laud would have shuddered and Sacheverel blushed," were to be found no members of the Birmingham Old Library. The Library committee, indeed, had not altogether escaped internal dissensions. A paper war of some bitterness arose in 1785 on the question of admitting works of controversy. Priestley was against the proposal, even to the exclusion of his own work on the Corruptions of Christianity, until the funds should be ample enough to provide all sides of any question. The battle raged for nearly three years, and in 1787 it was agreed to admit controversial books. Priestley withdrew from the committee in 1790, but continued to subscribe till he was driven, three years later, out of the town. At this time the library contained between 4,000 and 5,000 volumes. In 1793 also occurred a secession of several dissatisfied members, who formed a New Library which maintained a separate existence till 1860, when it was re-amalgamated with the Old. From that time to the present the progress of the Old Birmingham Library, though sometimes chequered, has been, upon the whole, very prosperous. The one small box that in 1779 held all the books, has expanded into a large substantial building of two or three stories, one of which is a commodious reading-room, while the others are filled with books numbering from 40,000 to 50,000 volumes. The small band of 19 subscribers in 1779 is now represented by 1450 members. Books to the value of £400 or £500 are purchased annually, and our fellow member, Mr. C. E. Scarse, the present librarian, has a large field for the exercise of his talent and energy which he does not fail to cultivate.

It will be gratifying to our readers to know that the Cathedral Library at Chichester has (since the death of Canon Ashwell) been placed under the care of the Rev. Chancellor Parish, a member of this Association.

MARCH MONTHLY MEETING.

THE fifth Monthly Meeting of the third year of the Association was held at the London Institution on Friday, March 5, 1880, at 8 p.m., Mr. W. H. OVERALL in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and

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confirmed, the Chairman called on Mr. T. W. SHORE to read his paper on

LIBRARIANS AND ANCIENT PARISH REGISTERS.

Mr. SHORE said: Parish Registers are such extremely valuable books that the question of their safe custody is one to which this Association cannot be indifferent. Mr. Burn, in his "History of Parish Registers in England," has given much valuable information, Mr. Seton, of H.M. General Register House, Edinburgh, has drawn attention to the subject in the January number of the *Antiquary*, and an article and correspondence on the same subject have lately appeared in the *Standard*. The present system of registration in England and Wales, under which a copy of the entry of each birth, marriage, and death, by the local registrars, is transmitted to the General Register Office at Somerset House, came into operation on the 1st July, 1837, and although the Acts and Ordinances under which Parish Registers were established, ordered that transcripts should be forwarded to the Bishop of the diocese to be handed down to posterity as part of the diocesan records, yet it is notorious that this duty was very often neglected. For example, Mr. Burn informs us that in that part of the diocese of Winton which comprises the county of Surrey there were, from 1597 to 1800, about 142 old parish churches, and there are only 20 duplicate registers for all these parishes between the above dates. The safe custody of the registers previous to 1837 is therefore a matter of very great importance, and the necessity of making some change can only be judged by those who have in various places inspected these records. In the majority of cases the parish church is not a fit place for the custody through several centuries of a valuable series of books. Even at the present day, when the key of the chest in which the registers are preserved is usually kept by the incumbent instead of the parish clerk, it is probable that in a majority of cases, damp, dust, and general neglect are only too surely accomplishing the work of destruction. The opposition of the clergy to the transfer of these registers to the custody of the Registrar General in 1837 when the registers of the Nonconformists were so transferred, formed a part of their general opposition to the Registration Acts, and we have in consequence a much less perfect set of registers in England and Wales than would otherwise have been the case. If some effort is not made by antiquaries, genealogists, associations such as this, and all who are interested in the preservation of precious books, it may safely be affirmed that as time goes on many of these registers will gradually disappear. Let the visitor at the country parsonage who doubts this, request his host to allow him to examine the oldest volumes of the register, and he will come to the opinion that Somerset House is a much more suitable place for these books than the church or the parsonage house. The Library Association of the United Kingdom may very well join in the attempt to stay this natural destruction of parish registers, and I would suggest that a general

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resolution or recommendation on the subject should be proposed, and, if carried, sent to the various newspapers for publication. A correspondent of the *Standard*, of January 12, 1880, gives an instance of care for ancient parochial registers which is worthy of all publicity: it is that of the Vicar of Leigh, in Lancashire, who has for some time been publishing the ancient registers of that parish in his monthly parochial magazine. This plan affords an excellent opportunity of doing some really good work in connection with these ancient records to the incumbents of all except the most populous parishes, and with respect to these, I think the Library Association, while raising its voice on this question, may do something towards making known the existence of the Harleian Society, which has been established for the publication of unedited manuscripts relating to genealogy, &c., and which has already published the registers of several large city parishes and is now engaged upon others.

In the course of the ensuing discussion, Mr. SHORE exhibited a folio book of 230 pages containing the accounts of the Guild of the Holy Ghost, near Basingstoke, from 1557 to 1654, which he had brought to light at the Hartley Institution.—Mr. C. WALFORD said that the parish register is a record of local history, and in many places the only one. The particulars preserved in them are often very interesting. For example, on the occasion of any great calamities, as fires or storms, a petition used to be made to the king, who issued a brief which was sent to each parish, and accounts of these, and of the collections made upon them, are entered in the parish register. As to the book of accounts, he remarked that at the dissolution of the guilds, though many of their records were destroyed, probably many others were put away to prevent inquiry as to property, and are still in existence in remote places.—Mr. OVERALL said that the subject was one of considerable importance, and worthy of the support of the Association. There had been some efforts made a few years since to have the registers deposited in some central place, but this did not meet with the sympathy of the custodians, who feared the loss of some fees. If there could be a well-defined plan settled by which every Public Library throughout the United Kingdom should become the depository of the registers of the district, it would meet with favour, and the legislature might be persuaded to pass some general measure to carry it into effect. A general index of names, too, would be a great desideratum. In many City parishes these interesting archives are most perfect. The registers of the parish of St. Matthew, Friday Street, commence in 1538, the year in which Lord Cromwell ordered that a register should be kept in every parish. The registers of St. Mary Aldermanbury; St. Mildred's, Poultry; All Hallows', Bread Street; Christ Church, and several others, begin in 1538; those of St. James', Garlick Hithe, are earlier—1535.—Mr. WELCH said that many London parish and ward books had been deposited in the Corporation Library; among them were the records of the Pie Powder Court of

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Bartholomew Fair, the Court Book of St. Martin-le-Grand, the Vestry Books of St. Mildred Poultry and other parishes.

Some critical and explanatory remarks on Mr. Bailey's Paper on Catalogues of Transactions and Periodicals (*see* pp. 12–16), by Mr. T. W. Newton, joint-compiler of the catalogue of the Library of the Museum of Practical Geology; together with a reply by Mr. Bailey, were read by the Secretary.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES.

Size Notation.—H. R. T. suggests that the word "size" should be restricted to indicating height, breadth, and thickness. But would it not be clearer to discontinue the use of this ambiguous word altogether, substituting "dimension," or "dimensions" in one of its meanings, and "form" in the other?—Jot.

Library Ladder.—Mr. J. G. Arnold, of 38, King William Street, is the maker of a handy folding ladder which seems to combine compactness with strength. The rails are of oak, and when the ladder is closed they shut into a groove in one of the sides. The price is 12*s.* 6*d.* for a length of seven feet.—C. W.

Book Tag.—Both in Ripon Minster Library, and in the University Library, Durham, I have made great use of Clements' Gum Tickets, manufactured by Clements and Newling, 96, Wood Street, London, chiefly, I believe, for drapers. What I use are plain, circular, and serrated at the edges, of three or four different sizes, the largest being about the size of a shilling. They very rarely fail to stick permanently, and in the case of books very much used I have known them wear out rather than come off.—J. T. F.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

Catalogue of the Library at Chatsworth. [Compiled by Sir James P. Lacaita.] London, printed at the Chiswick Press, 1879. Four vols., 4to.

Drawn up with great skill and care. The Duke of Devonshire has privately printed 250 copies of this sumptuous catalogue on small, and 50 copies on large paper.

Catalogue of the Library of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London. [Compiled by B. R. Wheatley.] London, printed for the Society, 1879. Three vols., 8vo.

The catalogue of a well-selected special library of over 31,000 volumes. The third volume consists entirely of an elaborate index of subjects, forming a useful manual of medical and surgical bibliography.

List of Carthusians, 1800–1879. Edited by the Rev. Chancellor W. D. Parish. Lewes, Farncombe and Co., 1879. 8vo.

A valuable accession to the department of modern English biography. This volume possesses special interest for the librarian from the fact that the compiler has appended a brief printed "author and subject" slip which can be detached for insertion in catalogues.

London: TRÜBNER & CO., Ludgate Hill.

Single Numbers, Threepence each. Annual Subscription, post free, 3s. 6d.

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No. 4.] [*April* 15, 1880.

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

AT the Meeting on Friday, May 7, a paper will be read by Mr. HENRY WILSON, Assistant Librarian, British Museum: "Remarks on Facsimile Reproduction."

APRIL MONTHLY MEETING.

THE sixth Monthly Meeting of the third year of the Association was held at the London Institution on Friday, April 2, 1880, at 8 p.m., Professor W. S. JEVONS in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Chairman called on Mr. B. R. WHEATLEY to read his paper entitled

THOUGHTS ON TITLE-TAKING, TRITE, TRIVIAL, OR TENTATIVE.—No. 1.

Mr. WHEATLEY said: The taking of a title appears a very simple work, and some have spoken of it as a mere copying of words within the capacity of everyone. There can be no objection to the copying of an entire title-page for a special bibliography, but the experience of all who have had to do much cataloguing must lead them to avoid the servile repetition of the wording of a title. There is so much introduced for the sake of appearance or for advertisement, so much that we feel can be of no use to the enquirer, that it seems like being imposed upon, to be tied to the necessity of following literally so much useless verbiage; and it becomes a question whether, even in bibliographical works on rare books, it may not be carried to excess, and whether the complete copying of a title-page is not really an unnecessary and fanciful style of work, for which there is no adequate motive. Is not a catalogue of the nature described in the old clever and amusing anagram of the word, "Got as a clue"? and may not the catalogue title, in some, though of course in a very different degree, bear the same relation to its title-page as an index or title-page does to the book? and may it not therefore bear to that title-page some little proportion of the indicial character? Any of the usual plans of dots, lines, &c., to represent elisions, omissions, &c., can be adopted, but a book must not be considered as badly or improperly catalogued because such and such words have been omitted. The

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cultivation of our own judgment in making such omissions will be a more useful object for the employment of our critical faculties. A long list of titles illustrating this point might be made. I have made a copy of one of them as an illustration:—"Speculum Polytechnum Mathematicum novum, | tribus visionibus illustre | quarum extat | Una Funda- | mentalis Aliquot | Numerorum Danielis et Apo- | calypseos naturæ et proprie- | tatis Consignatio | Altera, usus Hactenus | incognitus Instrumenti Da- | nielis Speccelii, ad altitudinum, profun- | ditatum, longitudinum, latitudinumque dimen- | siones, nec non Planimetricas delineationes | accommodatio | Postrema brevis ac luculenta se- | xies Acuminati Proportionum Cir- | cini quibus fructuose iste adhibeatur | enarratio | In omnium Mathesin Adamantium | Emolumentum | prius Germanicè æditum | Authore | Joanne Faulhabero Arithmetico | et Logista Ulmensi ingeniosissimo | Posterius vero ne tanto aliæ na- | tiones defraudentur bono, Latinè conversum | per | Joannem Remmelinum, Ph. et Med. | Doctorem | Impressum Ulmæ, typis Joannis | Mederi | MDCXII." The following entry of the title is such as perhaps would answer all the necessary requirements of an ordinary catalogue:—"Faulhaber (Johannes). Speculum Polytechnum Mathematicum novum tribus visionibus, una: Numerorum Danielis et Apocalypseos naturæ consignatio; altera: usus Instrumenti Danielis Speccelii, ad altitudinum etc. dimensiones accommodatio; postrema: sexies Acuminati Proportionum Circini enarratio; prius Germanicè, Latinè conversum per Joannem Remmelinum. 4to. Ulmæ, 1612." The process usually taking place in a library when a book is required does not necessitate the full display of the wording of a title-page; it is the book itself which is wanted, and the shortened form serves this purpose, while the reading of an elaborate title-page can be obtained from the book itself when found. In choosing our omissions, we ought to make a special point of leaving out all that is a mere expansion of words previously used, while we must enter with care all such phrases as show in what the work is otherwise special or peculiar. There are a certain set of phrases which are frequently met with in old books, such as "Whereunto is added a new and very complete treatise on," "To which is annexed a very particular and instructive account of," "The whole illustrated with elegant sculptures after the life," "With a treatise very profitable and necessary for every man, newly and carefully corrected and amended, and also somewhat enlarged in certain places, on." Most of such pleonastic phrases might be replaced by the preposition "with," in brackets if preferred. One is sometimes inclined to omit short first words, or such as are redundant or unnecessary to the sense, and also Latin words or phrases at the head of titles of English works, which are simply translations of the English words following them; but I have sometimes had reason to doubt the propriety of the omission, from finding that these words have become in the course of time a portion of the familiar quotation of the book, and, therefore, if they are not inserted, doubts may arise as to identity of edition. This refers to

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Latin sentences as well as to single words, among the latter of which may be mentioned such works as: Hodges' Loimologia, or Account of the Plague; Deane's Spadacrene Anglica; Crooke's Microcosmographia, &c. Among causes of error in transcription of titles, one sometimes occurs in which the author's name is placed in a position and type totally subsidiary to that of the translator, in order apparently to flatter the vanity of the latter by throwing the name of the author into the greatest possible shade obtainable by small type, while the translator's name appears in letters which, compared with the author's, are like those of the starring actor in theatrical placards. On the bindings of these books and in rapidly compiled catalogues, the translator's name is invariably adopted as that of the author. I may mention an example: "G. L. Bayle's Researches on Pulmonary Phthisis, translated by William Barrow. Liverpool, 1815." At first sight the work is invariably supposed to be Barrow's, the name of Bayle being in small old English type, intentionally so printed. In another work the same object is differently achieved. The book is a translation of Davaine's work on Human Entozoa. In the title Davaine's name does not occur, but the pseudo-author acknowledges a partial indebtedness to him in the preface. The work is really an abridged translation of Davaine's treatise, by Abbotts Smith, though ostensibly a work by the latter. I once met with another simple but singular cause of error in title-taking. It was a small 4to volume in Latin, which at first sight I catalogued as by Herman Conringius. The work was "Twelve Books on the Chief Controversies in the Art of Surgery," an "opera posthuma, nunc primum edita." I was puzzled, however, on turning over the title, to find the dedication signed by the posthumous author, and further, that in the running heading it was stated to be the work of Thomas Fienus. Turning back to the title to endeavour to decipher the mystery, I soon found that the title-page, which was an engraved one, had a square opening in the centre for the reception of the printed title, but not made sufficiently large for the purpose, and the name of Thomas Fienus had been printed into a dark portion of the engraving, and was thus almost entirely obscured to casual observation. While referring to engraved title-pages, I would add that where a work has two title-pages, one printed and the other engraved, the former should always be taken in preference to the pictured form, as the latter frequently has errors in spelling, either of the author's name or of other important words. Indeed, the engravers appear always to have worked independently of the corrector of the press, and to have had a peculiar idiosyncrasy for variety in their spellings.

Difficulties sometimes occur in the use of the article in French names, leading, when an author has also written in Latin with a Latinized name, to the separation of his works, as: Du Moulin and Molinæus, Descartes and Cartesius, Le Roy and Regius, Le Clerc and Clericus, Joan. de Monteregio and Regiomontanus, and many others. The rule (to be again mentioned subsequently) as to the first of two French names in apposition being the one to be

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adopted in alphabetical arrangement, and also applicable to the case where the second name is joined to the first by the preposition "de," has to be sometimes broken when familiar or professional parlance has rendered the second name so common and prevailing as to be the only possible one for use. I need not now refer to the hackneyed case of Voltaire, but I may add a few other illustrations of the point, in those of R. J. Croissant de *Garengeot*, Guill. Manquest de *La Motte*, H. M. Ducrotay de *Blainville*, &c. The above use of names is easily explicable by the universal instinct to shorten all names brought into constant use, the name which rests last upon the ear soon becoming that adopted for usual parlance by the tongue.

The letter O in names of authors is sometimes a trouble from its usual connexion with the ablative case, and we have to be careful when we come upon such names in titles, as "a Philippo Montalto," "authore Julio Millo," &c., that we do not turn the surnames into *us*, but give them their right nominatives in *o*, as Philippus Montalto, and Julius Millo, which will be found by reference to dedication or preface to be the right forms of their names.

There is a famous little work by Nicolas Stenson on the Muscles and Glands, in which the genitive case of the name becomes the cause of trouble. On the title the wording is "Nicolai Stenonis de Musculis et Glandulis Observationum specimen," and you naturally write on your title slip, "Steno (Nicolaus)," as it is generally catalogued; but on turning to the preface you find it is signed Nicolaus Stenonis. I met it once somewhere in the form of Nicolaus Stenonis fil., which probably explains the matter, and is connected with the fact that in the vernacular the name is Nicolas Stenson.

When any antique or doubtful form of spelling occurs in a modern work, it is as well in copying it *literatim* to add the word [*sic*] in brackets, as you will find the compositor will otherwise not unfrequently correct your supposed error into the most recent and customary form. When the names of two authors occur as partners in a work, we should not, I think, place the Christian name of the second in parenthesis after the surname, as is often done. The object of the parenthesis being merely to show that the Christian name is removed to the second place for the alphabetical arrangement of the surname, but is to be read first, there can be no reason for repeating the operation with the second name. Honorary titles should not on the same principle be included in the parenthesis, as Brown (John, D.D.), as it gives the reading John D.D. Brown. It seems preferable always to write Brown (John) D.D.

With regard to Christian names, many authors invariably sign with initials, and as it is important for the identification of authors, the Christian name must be sought for in a Biographical Dictionary; but where an author has three or four Christian names, and they are given in full in his work, it will generally suffice to give the first in full, and the rest in initials. I refer to such names as Dietrich Wilhelm Heinrich Busch. In objection to the rule for

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putting works under the last initial letter of a concealed name, I may mention one instance out of many. In Errard's work on Geometry, published in 1620, we have "revene par D. H. P. E. M.," which are the initials of "D. Henriom, Professeur ès Mathematiques." Other letters which occur frequently before names create doubts as to their standing for Christian names or not, such as M., F., P., R., D., &c., which often mean only Monsieur, Frater, Pater, Reverendus, or Dominus. You cannot always be guided by the importance given to names by old printers in their use of small or large type; appearance, totally irrespective of meaning or real importance, seeming to be the controlling guide of the arrangement; take as an instance a work by Ferrarius: IOH. BAPTISTÆ | Ferrarii Senensis | FLORA.||.

We want to keep up a casual acquaintance with the Latinized names of towns, for frequently of three names it is excessively difficult to say whether they consist of two Christian names and a surname, or of a Christian name, a surname, and a patronymic, or agnomen from place of birth or residence. Catalogues often contain errors on this point. A careful reference to the characters of the type in which the name is given at the commencement or end of the preface will sometimes relieve our doubts on the subject. Another class of difficult names is when the surname has the appearance of a Christian name, as P. F. Thomas Longueville, which is often erroneously catalogued under Longueville.

It is a great error to invent new works by entering separately portions of title-pages; such tractates should be entered only as part of the general title in which they are found, with cross references from the several names of the authors.

Lines at the commencement of titles should be confined to replacing the repetition of the same author's name. When the same name occurs with different Christian names it should be repeated, as there is a risk, if the lines are continued, of the whole appearing to the eye as the works of the first author named. The repetition of the surname to every work of an author is equally objectionable, as it destroys the possibility of seeing at a glance the extent of each author's works.

With regard to *place of publication* in our titles, no *ibids* should be allowed to works published at the same place except when they are the works of the same author. *Ibids* continued down a page including works of different authors may lead at a future time, when some cutting-up and re-sorting of the catalogue takes place, to an infinity of error as to place of publication.

On the subject of dates, I may mention some varieties which prove difficulties to cataloguers. There is a master-key, which will unlock the mystery of the greater number of them, and this is the simple and common one that all lesser numbers placed before larger ones, or inserted between parts of them, are to be deducted from the larger. In illustration I may mention that I have seen the dates 1609 in the form of MDCVIV, 1599 as MDIC, viz., one less than 1600; and 1698 as MIIDCC, or two from 1700. In an old work, "Mare Liberum," date 1609, there is an uncommon use of I in

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place of a C, as CIↃ.IↃI.IX.; 1499 appears as MCDXCIX (the 100 being subtracted from the 500), and the same date may be seen as MID. (one from 1500); 1585 appears as CIↃIↃXXCV., the twenty being deducted from the 1600, and 1599 as MDIC. On a different plan from the above I have seen M.VIC.XXI. for 1621. I need hardly add how frequently a tall I at the end of names and dates stands for two ii, as MDLI. for 1552, and RostochI for Rostochii.

From the subjects of place and date I must return to notice two other difficulties in regard to Christian names. They are, first, their entire omission in many French works, and secondly, their being confounded with surnames in English. There is a constant trouble arising from this omission of Christian names in French works—it is as if the author was considered to be too well known to require such distinctive initials, and, as in many instances this omission can be supplied by a reference to a Biographical Dictionary, their non-use seems to be caused by a national idiosyncrasy opposed to them. In a Medical Directory of the day, out of about 1,800 names of Doctors of Medicine in Paris, only 300 have had their initials prefixed, and this only where there was a necessity for distinguishing between two or more of the same name; and in the French Dictionaries of Medicine still in progress, and in their earlier editions, in the enumeration of contributors a large number have no initial Christian name prefixed. This peculiarity soon strikes the librarian as more particularly occurring in works published since the commencement of the present century, and as among the authors there are a large number who must have been born during the wild and stormy days of the first French Revolutionary period, when the Church was for a time dethroned and its priests scattered abroad, one feels inclined to ask whether a short time did not then occur when no Christian names were given at baptism, and no rationalistic prænomens supplied their place; infants having only sobriquets, nicknames, or terms of affection given them, which could never assume the position of a genuine name given at a public solemnity; and would be likely to be dropped by the one would-be celebrity of his family, when he left his provincial home to enter the Parisian world, in which he was to be known as the sole representative of his family name. Years ago, while thinking over this question, I came across a passage in Victor Hugo's "Les Misérables," Chap. XXVII., which appeared to favour the supposition; it runs thus: "She called herself Fantine, and why Fantine? She was never known by any other name. At the period of her birth the Directory was still in existence. She had no family name as she had no family, and no Christian name as the Church was abolished." May we not consider this a partial cause of the deficiency of Christian names, and one which has had a collateral influence in causing the with-holding of the use of them in cases where nevertheless the Biographical Dictionary testifies to their existence?

On the second subject, of double names, there is a distinct opposition in the rules to be followed in English and French title-taking. In French the *first* of two surnames in apposition without the

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intervening preposition *de*, whether hyphened or not, is almost invariably the name to be adopted for alphabetical arrangement, as Boileau-Despréaux, Choiseul Gouffier, Duplessis Mornay, Pigault Lebrun, Rapin Thoyras, Barthélemy St. Hilaire, Geoffroy St. Hilaire, &c., and a strong collateral proof of this rule is that the French, who, more than any other race, are accustomed to consider their own systems applicable to all other countries as well, in the Indexes to the "Comptes Rendus," and "Mémoires" of their Academy, and in other works, invariably take for the alphabet the first of two English names, such as Marshall Hall, Rymer Jones, Burdon Sanderson, &c., which will be found respectively placed under Marshall, Rymer, and Burdon.

In regard to English double names, the first is generally what I must take the liberty of calling for distinction a "sur-Christian name," and thus the second of two apparent surnames is the one to be used for arrangement in the alphabet, and this rule forms one of those which have been lately adopted, for the sake of obtaining uniformity in the indexes of books, by the Index Society, and is one of the rules recommended by the committee of our Association.

It is a singular thing, that contemporaneously with this apparent settlement of the question, there has been a growing inclination to hyphen these two English names, and so to compel the use of the first as the alphabet one.

I do not wish to discuss instances where other names have been assumed on coming into property left with that proviso; the laws of the land will settle that question; but I will describe in detail an imaginary case illustrating the circumstances to which I allude:—

A child has two Christian names given at its baptism, the second of which is the surname of a friend of the family. Take any name you please as that of our family, say "White," the child becoming William Cullen White. In the course of years he becomes a well-known poet, physician, statesman, or what not; he becomes known as Cullen White, gives this additional Christian name in common to all his children, and they carry it on into another generation, the family becoming generally known and spoken of as the Cullen Whites, and they wish to be so known. But the ancestor poet or statesman was known as a White, and our ancestral librarian catalogued his works under White, and we have continued the process. Why cannot his family be known as the Cullen Whites, as Kirke White and Blanco White are known under White, without our having to arrange their name under Cullen?

Names of this double character among the Smiths, Browns, Joneses, &c., are positively legion, and have hitherto been allowed to follow the English rule given above, in peace; but if this hyphening is to be encouraged, and these two names are hereafter required to be alphabetized under the first or second of them at the caprice of the possessor, "confusion worse confounded" will arise in our catalogues; for the matter is fast growing, and printers' compositors are beginning of their own accord to follow in the track marked out, and in their uncertainty are hyphening double names without the slightest authority for so doing.

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The object is patent: the desire to add a sounding prænomen to the simplicity of the original surname; but this has hitherto been considered as achieved without this hyphening, and I think, if the alteration be allowed to exist in Court Guides, Directories, and Professional Lists, we should if possible make a stand, and not let it invade the more systematic entries of our catalogues, but keep to the rule of placing them, as has been customary in English, under the second name, with cross-references in such peculiar cases as seem to require them.

DISCUSSION.—Mr. NICHOLSON, referring to surnames, mentioned the well-known Robert-Houdin, whose true name was Jean Eugène Robert, Houdin being an assumed addition. In Orrinsmith, originally Orrin Smith, the alteration has gone a step further, and the two names have now become one.—Mr. WALFORD, speaking as a literary worker, said that booksellers often abridged titles so that a book could not be recognised.—Prof. JEVONS said that he had met with all these difficulties, and found some of them almost insurmountable. Titles must sometimes be abridged, but we must be careful to avoid inventing new books, and should indicate variations without inserting any words, because the probability is that they will afterwards be copied as part of the title by someone else. Such names as the Abbé Condillac, or Mr. Locke, present little difficulty, but with obscure authors trouble arises. As to M. as indicating either Monsieur or a Christian name, we can do nothing but refer to dictionaries.—Mr. OVERALL remarked that the title often gave no clue to the subject of the book, and additions became necessary.—Prof. JEVONS said that there were two kinds of catalogues, one a record, the other a finding list.—Mr. WALFORD mentioned a catalogue of hereditary English titles since the Conquest, issued by the Index Society; a most perfect book of its kind, and very useful to cataloguers.—Mr. BRACE exhibited a title slip in which the date 1468 was given as "terseno in anno terdeni iubilei." —Mr. WHEATLEY, in reply to a remark respecting changes of name, said that he could not help thinking that the son's name should not be separated from his father's, because he chose to add a prefix.

A vote of thanks to Mr. WHEATLEY for his paper was then carried unanimously.

It was proposed by Mr. T. W. SHORE, and seconded by Mr. C. WALFORD: "That this Association do use its influence, through any means open to it, in promoting the formation of a library of ancient parish registers, or transcripts of the same (previous to 1837) under the care of the Registrar General." After some discussion, the consideration of the resolution was adjourned until the next meeting.

In last number, page 18, line 28, *for* Saddon *read* Seddon; line 30, *for* Dr. Owen *read* Rev. E. Owen; line 47, *after* extracts *insert* "from the minute book."

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No. 5.] [*May* 15, 1880.

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

MAY MONTHLY MEETING.

THE seventh Monthly Meeting of the third year of the Association was held at the London Institution on Friday, May 7, 1880, at 8 p.m., Mr. W. H. OVERALL in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Chairman called on Mr. HENRY WILSON to read his paper entitled

REMARKS ON FACSIMILE REPRODUCTION.

Mr. WILSON said: Modern Science has placed so many ways of multiplying copies at our disposal, that within the last few years a vast number of reproductions of objects of artistic and historical interest have been made; often without sufficient discrimination in the selection of the subject, or the process employed. It therefore concerns librarians and other custodians of rare and valuable objects of interest, not only that they should be able to choose wisely the objects to be copied, but also to judge what processes of reproduction will best suit those objects. Works of art of acknowledged excellence are rare and costly; but precisely also because of their incontestable merit, a knowledge of them should be diffused by means of worthy copies. Every selection of art-work reproduced, will contribute its share in the elevation or debasement of future art and culture. Engravings, etchings, and chalk and pencil drawings of old masters, can now be reproduced with wonderful fidelity, and multiplied with such facility and comparative cheapness that a wise choice of the originals to be copied becomes all the more necessary. In the selection of archæological subjects for reproduction, the exercise of judgment is no less desirable. Among these, inscriptions and palæographical monuments will occupy an important place, and copies of these will not only serve in spreading a knowledge of the science, but will atone in some degree for the poverty of our provincial libraries and museums in manuscripts—a poverty which is far greater in England than on the Continent. Facsimiles of such subjects prove a great help to the student, and at the same time save the unique originals from wear and tear. Good facsimiles of autographs, too,

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are valuable for reference. Facsimiles from a few pages of the earliest incunabula may also be of interest, as showing the mechanical difficulties that the first printers had to overcome, and the progress of their art. But the reproduction of entire printed books in facsimile seems to me a very questionable benefit. To read a classic in its editio princeps may be like drinking old wine, a luxury for which those who are able may be willing to pay. But the attempt to obtain it spuriously by reprinting whole volumes in an unfamiliar type, and often very imperfectly as a facsimile, is generally a failure. Such work as this is a sacrifice of time, talent, and industry which should be far better expended. It seems reasonable to expect that the best facsimiles are to be obtained by the employment of technical means most nearly allied to those used in the production of each original. Hand-work, perhaps, still excels any other method in copying originals executed by other hands, but the cost of such work is often prohibitive, nor can copies be multiplied in this way to any considerable extent. Here are some facsimiles executed by hand. No mechanical process could render the general effect, and even the detail of the originals, nearly so well. This is especially true where painting of any sort is to be copied.

Before the present century, nearly all archæological illustrations were given by copperplate printing, at first rough and often very inaccurate, the workman seeming not yet fully master of his tools and materials; however, they are permanent—a merit which we must deny the photographic illustrations of but a few years ago. But the copperplate was not long in asserting its capabilities in the hands of the best artists, and is still used, though expensive. I know of no better monochromatic reproductions of mediæval illuminated ornament than some of the plates in Dibdin's "Decameron." The engraving alone of a small tail-piece, he tells us in one of his notes, cost £50, and that was before 1817. The late Mr. H. Shaw commended the elasticity of wood as favourable to reproducing ancient illuminated ornament by xylography. His "Art of Illumination" certainly confirms this opinion by some fine examples, engraved with all the delicacy which might be expected from the feminine hands which executed them. Even to some extent they succeeded in rendering by "tints" the colour of the originals. However, such work as this is not only costly and time-taking, but it is often scarcely to be had at all, and the archæologist may too often find himself in the hands of careless, hurried, or unskilful workmen, whose productions will but travesty antiquity. Even the most expensive work lags far behind photography in literal accuracy, as will be easily seen for instance on comparing a plate from Astle, or the "Paléographie Universelle" with the original. Valuable as is the labour of the earlier archæologists, it would have had greater weight had they been able to command the numerous reproducing processes which rival each other at the present day, and the history of which is largely that of lithography and photography.—Mr. Wilson then gave a brief account of the

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origin, progress, and principles of chemical printing or lithography, illustrating his remarks by a series of lithographs showing successive improvements, commencing with a proof from a stone which had belonged to Senefelder, the inventor of the art, and adding that in recent years zinc has been found to possess the properties of the lithographic stone, with the advantage of occupying less space, being more portable, and less fragile. The anastatic transfer process, and the mode of making drawings on lithographic transfer paper, were then explained, and examples shown of facsimiles and other drawings done by this useful process, which requires no reversal of the design, and demands little more than a sharp eye and a steady hand, with care not to use any more ink than just necessary.

Mr. WILSON next gave an account of the important steps in early photography, illustrating the subject with proofs made by the early and imperfect processes, and then continued:—Fox Talbot found that paper covered with silver chloride darkened in the daylight, and consequently could be impressed with the picture of flat and partly translucent objects superposed. Herschel found that hyposulphite of soda dissolved the unaltered chloride which had been protected by the opaque parts of the object, but not the darkened silver chloride, and consequently that the pictures might be fixed: this simple plan is still used to obtain a few copies of sketches or plans, etc. This is the ordinary silver print without the "toning," an operation by which minute particles of gold are precipitated from solution upon the image, and give it the rich purple tone with which we are familiar, together with greater permanency. The permanency of such prints is, however, much contested, prints only ten years old being often faint or yellow like the example shown. Silver has great affinity for sulphur, and traces of this substance are apt to remain from the hyposulphite, and are sure always to prove fatal if not entirely eliminated by careful washing of the prints. In 1830, Daguerre introduced iodide of silver. Bromide of silver was found to be even more sensitive, especially to green and some other colours. The adoption of these haloid salts of silver, together with the treatment of the plate, after exposure in the camera-obscura, with gallic acid, or sulphate of iron, was an immense advance. The last-named substances have the property of determining a change in the portions of the silver salt which have been predisposed to that change, by exposure to light, thus evoking into visibility the previously latent image. Niépce de St. Victor substituted glass for paper, retaining the silver salt in a thin coating of albumen. Instead of albumen, Archer adopted collodion, an adhesive, limpid, and very volatile solution of cotton, which, poured out over glass, rapidly dries, leaving a fine transparent substratum for the image. This image is of course negative; the strongest lights producing the greatest effect, the light and shade of the model are exactly reversed. "Candida de nigris et de candentibus atra." The negative serves as a matrix from which copies can be multiplied by exposing paper under it to the light.

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The collodion film is nowadays often removed from the glass, and mounted on gelatine. You see how light and pliant this example is; not only is it not brittle like a glass plate, but the gelatine is so thin, that prints can be made from either side without perceptible loss of sharpness, and thus reversed pictures needed for transfer to stone, metal, or wood can be easily obtained.

Let me here mention two other processes which rather belong to photography than photo-mechanical multiplication. Among the numerous substances sensible to light, one of the most important is potassic bichromate. Added to gelatine, and exposed to daylight, it converts the gelatine into a kind of insoluble leather, while the unexposed portions remain as before, soluble in warm water. This was discovered by Talbot, in 1852. Poitevin mixed finely ground pigments with the sensitized gelatine, and coated paper with the mixture; the result, after exposure and development in warm water, was an image in the insoluble pigment, greatly superior to the silver print. Boaun, of Dornach in Alsace, made large numbers of facsimiles of manuscripts in this carbon-photography, so called because the pigment first used was finely subdivided carbon.

Here also let me introduce to your notice a new mode of photography not yet so well known as it deserves. It is called the platinotype, and was invented by Mr. Willis, who found that suboxalate of iron in a hot solution of potassic oxalate precipitated metallic platinum from salts of that metal; it had long been known that oxalate of iron was reduced to the suboxalate by light.

Here are some pale yellow prints on paper, which has been coated with iron oxalate and a salt of platinum. The pictures are so faint as to be hardly visible; the brownish grey parts are those where the light has reduced the light from the ferric to the ferrous salt. I draw a print over this hot solution of potassic oxalate, and you see the picture comes out in full, vigorous black tones. The platinum is precipitated upon the parts where the light has acted. This newest photographic improvement is one of the most easy, rapid, and permanent processes. The tone suits engravings. It is, however, very often the case that the contrasts in the negative lack the vigour of those in the original; this is especially the case when the models are in black and white, and are without half tones (or uniform tints not produced by lines or dots), and are so near the camera that the light reflected from them is sensibly diminished. In these cases, strengthening of the image is resorted to—that is, rendering the *lights* more opaque to chemical rays. This may be done by treating the negative with various solutions, so as to colour the lights black or scarlet, or by thickening them with a further addition of silver, which readily precipitates upon them from solution. The same can be effected as recently proposed with lead solutions. This plan of heaping up metallic deposit is, however, not free from the danger of lateral extension, and consequent encroachment upon the transparent contours of the image, so as even to entirely choke up the finer lines. Still it may be done with care, and it is the basis of one of the finest processes of

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mechanical reproduction. Scamoni, the heliographer of the Russian Government, succeeded in obtaining directly on the negative, a relief almost equal to the depth of the incised lines in a copper-plate engraving, and then took electrotypes from such negatives. These electrotypes served as copperplates for printing from. The process has been much used for the production of bank-notes, reductions of maps, &c. Its value as a mode of art reproduction is of the highest, as you may judge by these beautiful specimens, for which I am indebted to the kindness of the Typographic Etching Company, who do not hesitate to display their own productions by the side of them. Here is a reproduction of a Rembrandt etching executed by this Company. I am glad to be able to shew you a facsimile of this sort by an English house, which may fairly vie with the better known productions of Paris firms, of which specimens are also on the table. In considering Scamoni's plan of obtaining electrotypes directly from the negative, we have come by a sort of natural transition from photography proper to the photo-mechanical processes, that is processes in which the printing is not chemical as in photography, but where the block or plate from which impressions are taken is obtained by photography.—Mr. WILSON then gave a description of some of the modes of photographic etching, illustrating his remarks by plates and proofs, and continued:—It is often difficult to tell whether these proofs were produced by electrotype or by etching, and there is naturally a tendency on the part of inventors and workers of successful processes to keep the details of their operations secret, as patents of this sort are peculiarly hard to protect.

In 1854, Pretsch, an Austrian, obtained plates by exposing a film of bichromated gelatine beneath a negative, such as the chromo-gelatine film you have seen, and developed in hot water which dissolves the unaffected gelatine, and leaves what has been acted on by light through the transparent parts of the picture remaining in relief; this is dusted with graphite, and an electrotype procured from it, which serves as the printing-plate.

Here is a fine volume of facsimiles of departmental archives, published by the Ministry of the Interior, in connection with the International Exhibition, 1878: they are by Dujardin's *héliogravure*. You are almost ready to pick up some of these charters and fold them in the well-worn creases. Here also is a large map by the same house, and some facsimiles of more artistic subjects. Writing of Dujardin's reproductions of Boucher's drawings and etchings, the Marquis de Chenevières says in the *Gazette des Beaux-Arts*, *Janvier*, 1880: "Ce sont les seules que nous regardons avec confiance, les seules qui puissent faire apprécier les qualités et les défauts du maître."

Numerous and excellent as are the different ways of printing from metal plates with the ink contained in the incised portions, they have not the advantage of wood-engraving, where the blocks are in high relief, and can be printed with ordinary letterpress. It has accordingly been sought to imitate wood-engraving by pro-

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ducing blocks in high relief. As in stereotyping from engraved wood blocks, gypsum casts are taken—not, indeed, from an engraved block, but from the gelatine image. The unaltered parts which the light has not reached are not dissolved in warm water, but the impression is immersed in cold water. The yellow chromate is dissolved out, and the unaltered parts swell, the parts rendered insoluble by light remaining depressed. Considerable relief thus results, from which gypsum casts can be made, and from these again casts in type metal, wax, sulphur, or other subtances, can be obtained, or electrotypes, from which to print as wood blocks with the letterpress. Gillot, of Paris, has carried this relief-printing to great perfection, as you will see from these specimens; and on account of the great convenience of printing in the typographic press, and by any printer, its use is gaining ground. Here is a block and its impression. The process is useful in reducing copies to a smaller size. Here is another block of Mr. Dallas's; it shows that where there are large blank spaces, clearing with a scorper is necessary to obtain sufficient depth, or the ink would be caught and transferred to paper, as in this proof, pulled before this scraping. Here is a block by the Typographic Etching Company, for typographic printing, and its print. Such blocks are sometimes electrotypes from etched zinc. Such reproductions are good substitutes for wood in many cases. Mr. Dallas has recently applied the anastatic process in this way: a tracing or drawing, made as for a lithograph, can be turned into a metal relief for typographic printing. This would be an inexpensive and easy plan, for instance, for reproducing the facsimiles of signatures given in picture catalogues, &c.

In the processes hitherto mentioned, there has been no attempt to give homogeneous half-tones. The image consists of black and white, half-tones being got by numbers of fine lines or points near each other. But in 1865, Mr. Woodbury, in England, invented a way of doing this. A gelatine relief, when dry, is so strong and hard as to impart an impression on lead under great pressure. This lead is used as the printing-plate. The ink is not fat, but gelatinous and semi-transparent; and as its thickness varies with the depth of the depressions on the metal plate, the gradation of tint is almost as perfect as in a photograph. It is a suitable process for illustrating books where great numbers of copies are required; very perfect imitations of photographs are obtained by it, which have the merit of being in permanent pigment. The glossy surface, partly a result of the nature of the ink, is popular, but scarcely artistic. Here are some recent examples where this gloss is reduced to a minimum. I have known an instance, but only one, of the ink peeling off the paper, from an impression made when the process was younger.

Here is a reproduction of Goupil's from an oil painting: it seems printed like a copperplate. Some say that the impression is made upon the plate in a way analogous to that of the Woodbury-type lead plate. But M. Rousselon, the manager of the technical

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department, is sagaciously retentive about all such secrets. Here are also some specimens of a half-tone process by Dallas, intended for the typographic press, but it may be doubted whether such blocks will ever prove successful in the hands of the ordinary printer.

Here is another process giving half-tone very successfully; it has lately come into extensive use. Poitevin found that if an exposed film of bichromate and gelatine, such as the one you have seen, is damped with a sponge, and then gently rolled with a printer's inking roller, the printer's ink adheres only to the parts where the light has rendered the gelatine insoluble. Here, then, is a simple way of multiplying impressions mechanically, as long as the bichromate film holds good; by inking the image, and then pressing on it paper to which in turn the ink is transferred. This process is known as Albert-type, from Albert of Munich, who was the first to bring it up to practical efficiency. It is also known as the autotype, mechanical, or collotype process, and also as *Licht-druck*. The facsimiles of the Palæographical Society are produced in this way from original negatives by Mr. Prætorius, to whose kindness I am indebted for these and many of the examples before you. As you will easily understand, instead of taking these *Licht-druck* impressions upon paper, stone or zinc may be substituted, and thus the photographic image transferred to stone—that is photo-lithography; but half-tones are very unsatisfactory on zinc or stone. Such impressions are also printed on woodblocks for engraving. Reproductions in different colours are either very costly or very unsatisfactory. We may point to the reproductions of the Arundel Society, the facsimiles of ancient French MSS. undertaken by Comte Bastard, the pages of the "Paléographie Universelle," and some recent reproductions of water-colour drawings. Chromo-lithography, or chromo-lithography seconded by hand, is the all but universal process for such productions. The processes we have passed in review have nearly all been closely connected with photography, and to colours photography is not kind. Here is a "photo-chromo-lithographic" facsimile by Mr. Prætorius, in which the area and position of the respective colours have been obtained from photographic negatives. Something analogous to this has been done in pigment photography by Ducos, du Hauron, and M. Cros, by combining separate prints of different colours, but the results have been pronounced hard and unnatural, and are little known beyond photographic circles. A plan which has succeeded better is to superpose a pigment or *Licht-druck* picture upon colours previously printed by chromo-lithography.

In spite of occasional announcements by enthusiasts or charlatans, the question of photography in natural colours seems to be not much further advanced than it was years ago. Nièpce obtained coloured images on subchloride of silver, so did Becquerel, Zenker, Chastaing, and others. Abney obtained coloured images of the solar spectrum, and expressed confidence that a fixative for such pictures would be found. Eder, in his recent contribution to the subject, scarcely encourages such a conclusion.

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There is another important matter which should not be omitted, namely, the regulations under which photography of rare, often fragile and easily injured, objects should be allowed. They should of course be such as to combine the least handling of the objects with the most worthy copies of them. In some museums, and in the Louvre sculpture galleries, only dry-plate photographs are allowed to the general photographer—at least, this was so until lately. At the Bibliothèque Nationale very great restriction, if not total prohibition, was placed upon the photography of MSS. some time ago. In any case, supervision by officials should be exercised over all kinds of photography. Copying requires the most motionless floor. It is a good plan to photograph books, &c., on a horizontal stand, as they require in this position less fixing and therefore less handling, and are also better lighted. This may be done by placing a very fine silver mirror at an angle of 45° to the axis of the lens. This of course gives unreversed negatives, which, however, may easily be reversed in different ways.

In conclusion, the processes of mechanical reproduction and multiplication have reached such excellence that it is worth considering whether they may not be more widely used than at present in popularising really artistic works and counteracting the influence of the numerous coarse chromo-lithographs which tended to the debasement and not the elevation of the public taste.

Discussion.—Mr. Overall exhibited a copy of Aggas's map of London, executed in facsimile by Mr. E. J. Francis, and a History of the Charters of the Leathersellers' Company, with facsimiles of the charters by the same hand.—In reply to questions, Mr. Wilson said, with regard to *Photogravure*, that he did not think that Dujardin's copies were from the glass itself. Dujardin took care to obtain good copies of the engravings and reproduced them very exactly, even to the burr. As to wood blocks, water injures the fibre of the wood; therefore, some use ether or alcohol. One of the commonest methods is an Albert-type transferred to the wood. Illustrated charters such as those produced by Mr. Overall, might now be reproduced, as to the text, by photography, and the coloured portions by hand. For colours, hand-work had a charm not attainable by mechanical processes.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Wilson for his interesting paper, and the valuable specimens exhibited by him, was then carried unanimously.

Mr. Overall produced some specimens of morocco cloth for binding, which had been sent to him by Mr. Archibald Winterbottom, and some conversation on binding ensued.

Two new members were proposed, and will be balloted for at the next meeting.

The further consideration of the resolution as to Parish Registers was adjourned to next meeting.

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No. 6.] [*June* 15, 1880.

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

At the Meeting on Friday, July 2, a paper will be read by Mr. W. E. A. Axon (Manchester), entitled "The Poetry of the Bibliomania."

Members are begged to attend the Committee Meetings held on the third Friday of each month, as the Annual Meeting is now approaching. Among the matters to be discussed by the Committee on Title Entries at the next meeting (June 18) will be the subject of cross-references.

JUNE MONTHLY MEETING.

The eighth Monthly Meeting of the third year of the Association was held at the London Institution on Friday, June 4, 1880, at 8 p.m., Professor W. S. Jevons in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Messrs. C. H. Wade, Jun., and C. A. V. Conybeare were elected members, having been duly proposed at the May Monthly Meeting. The Chairman then called on Mr. Cornelius Walford to read his paper entitled:

Books I have seen; Books I have not seen; Books I should like to see; Books I never expect to see.

Mr. Walford said: Some few years since, when establishing a system of boxes for literary gatherings, I allotted one to "Books, curious and rare," and in a moment of pedantic reverie, scribbled inside its lid the words which constitute the title of the present paper. From time to time I deposited in it memoranda of books and tracts, to a very large extent clippings from second-hand book catalogues. I had never made any examination of the contents of this box, and probably should not have done so for a long period, but from the fact of receiving an invitation to read a paper. In my perplexity for a subject ready to hand, I turned to the said box, and propose to lay before you some of its contents—poor as I fear they will be found.

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It will be a foregone conclusion that a collection of odds and ends thus gathered together, mainly because they admitted of no more scientific arrangement, constitute a species of literary scavenging from which little can be hoped. Pressed with professional engagements, I must make the best of the task before me, claiming all requisite indulgence.

I need hardly say here that the clippings from catalogues were only preserved as indications of the existence of the publications to which they are supposed to relate. They were never designed to be regarded as conclusive, but they constitute very fair *prima facie* evidence upon which to found further enquiry. In the absence of anything even approaching to a general catalogue of English literature, these miscellaneous records occasionally throw light where otherwise all had been darkness. In this sense I speak with thankfulness of them. If I were to say that misprints, unscientific abridgments of titles, and slips as to authorship, were never found in these catalogues, I fear I should not secure absolute credence. I will, therefore, make no assertion of the kind. I might accomplish the task before me by the construction of four several lists, corresponding with the divisions of my title, from the contents of the box; but such a mode of proceeding would be defective in many respects, more particularly as regards the books I have seen, for of these my memory, rather than my box, contains the record. There is yet another difficulty. The scene is changing all the time; every book or tract which falls into the category of those I have seen, lessens in some degree the lists of each of the other classes; and here, perhaps, I ought to state, by way of avoiding confusion, that I only speak here after the manner of a special collector in certain walks of literature, and a lover of odds and ends in general. To apply any such fancied classification as that now assumed to books in general would be out of the question, the more so that I have seen nearly all the great libraries of Europe and America. In many of the more important libraries the out-of-the-way things do not seem to exist; they have probably been accounted as trash, and made away with accordingly; or if they do exist, they are not brought into the catalogues. I will illustrate more in detail my meaning about the transition from class to class by the following narration, the main incidents of which are of very recent occurrence.

The first book set up in type at the printing-office of the illustrious Benjamin Franklin, in Philadelphia, is one with a very remarkable history. Its title was as follows: "Ways and Means for the Inhabitants of Delaware to become Rich: Wherein the several growths and products of these Countries are demonstrated to be a sufficient Fund for a flourishing Trade. Humbly submitted to the Legislative Authority of three Colonies. . . . Printed and sold by S. Keimer, in Philadelphia, MDCCXXV." I was anxious to see this book, or more properly speaking, tract of 65 pages, mainly for the reason that it contained a reference to a proposed scheme of marine insurance which I thought might have borne

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some fruit: as probably it did. I found that the author of this tract was Francis Rawle. With this fact before me, I searched Watt, but found not a word, the same with Allibone, and this was the more remarkable, in that this latter work was itself published in Philadelphia, and there is a good deal about the Rawle family, descendants of the one wanted. I tried the British Museum, and in the Catalogue there, I found its title, but that was all: the tract itself was not to be met with. I consoled myself with the thought that in a few months I should be in the United States, and a visit to Philadelphia would of course accomplish all I wished. I searched the libraries there, but the result was disappointing; finally in the Loganian Library I found it, *i.e.*, the entry in the catalogue: the tract itself could not be found. It was known indeed to be in the building, and was believed to be the only copy extant. My disappointment was great, but as there seemed to be no help for it, I made the best of my bad luck, and (mentally at least) consigned this tract to the box, to take its place in the list of those I never expected to see! In this last proceeding I was premature. Quite a history has since been developed concerning this tract, as the correspondence I now proceed to read will show. [Mr. WALFORD then read his correspondence with Mr. William Brooke Rawle, of Philadelphia, concerning this book, which was found in the autumn of 1878, and privately reprinted: and continued].—I now place upon the table an elegant reprint of the tract which deserves attention, if for no other reason than that of exhibiting an act of generous regard on the part of a descendant of the original author. I trust that many other rare books and tracts may yet share a like practical resurrection. It is a feature of our age to love revivals of the past.

1. *Books I have seen.*—First I will instance a few in my own possession: "Two Godlie and profitable Sermons earnestly enveying against the Sins of this Land in generall, and in particular against the Sins of this City of London. Preached in the City of London by Thomas Hopkins, minister at Yeardley, in the Countie of Worcester." [Then, by way of indicating the drift of the contents, several texts are given in the title-page.] ". . . . At London, imprinted by Felix Kyngeston, and are to be sold under Saint Peter's Church in Cornehill, 1615." This publication created a great deal of attention at the time, perhaps more particularly in the light of the plague visitations then prevalent. "London's Deliverance Predicted: In a short Discourse, shewing the causes of Plagues in general, and the probable time (God not contradicting the course of second causes) when this present Pest may abate, etc. By John Gadbury. London, 1665." "A True and Faithful Account of the several Informations exhibited to the Honorable Committee appointed by the Parliament to Inquire into the late dreadful Burning of the City of London. Together with other Information touching the Insolency of Popish Priests and Jesuites; and the Increase of Popery, brought to the Honorable Committee appointed by the Parliament for that purpose. Printed in the year

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1667." Pepys in his Diary, under date Sept. 14, 1667, says, "Here I saw a printed account of the examination taken touching the burning of the City of London, shewing the plot of the Papists therein; which it seems hath been ordered to be burnt by the hands of the common hangman in Westminster Palace." This is a copy which survived. "Usury at Six per cent., examined and found unjustly charged by Sir Tho. Culpepper, and F. C. with many crimes and oppressions, whereof 'tis altogether innocent. Wherein is shewed the necessity of retrenching our Luxury, and vain consumption of Foreign Commodities, imported by English Money; also the reducing the Wages of Servants, Labourers, and Workmen of all sorts, which raiseth the value of our manufactures 15 or 20 per cent. dearer than our neighbours do afford them, by reason of their cheaper wayes; wherein is likewise hinted some of the many mischiefs that will ensue upon retrenching Usury; humbly presented to the High Court of Parliament now sitting. By Thomas Manley, Gent. London, printed by Thomas Ratcliffe and Thomas Daniel, and are to be sold by Ambrose Isted, at the Golden Anchor, over against St. Dunstan's Church, in Fleet Street, MDCLXIX."

This tract, I have reason to believe, accomplished a good deal in the way of diverting the current of anti-usury legislation, and hence of advancing our commercial prosperity. The mere titles of the large number of tracts for and against usury would constitute a very curious collection.

"An Alarm to Europe: By a late prodigious Comet, seen Nov. and Dec. 1680. With a predictive Discourse, Together with some preceding and some succeding Causes of its sad Effects to the East and North Eastern parts of the World, namely England, Scotland, Ireland, France, Spain, Holland, Germany, Italy, and many other places. By John Hill, Physitian and Astrologer." Then a diagram on title-page "the form of the Comet with its Blaze or Stream as it was seen Dec. the 24th, anno 1680. In the evening. London, printed by H. Brugie for William Thackery, at the Angel in Duck Lane." [1680.]

"The Sinner's Thundering Warning-piece. Being an Account of the great Damage done by the late Dreadful Thunder and Lightning, on the 16th of July last, both in City and Country; particularly at Tatnum-court, Islington, and several other places in and about the City of London, by beating down Chimnies, part 9 Houses, striking some dead, and others speechless, in a sad and deplorable manner; as also how one Mr. Woollar, of Ipswich in Suffolk, and six of his passengers was struck dead in his Wherry the same day by the Lightning, and many others dangerously scorch'd and burnt. The truth of which will be attested any day of the week by Ipswich Hoy-men at Bear-key near Billingsgate, or at the Pewter Platter in Bullingbrook's-rents, near Spittle Yard. To which is added a Sermon preach'd at Mr. Woollar's Funeral on the said occasion at St. Margaret's Church in Ipswich, by Mr. Wm. Elemy, Minister of the said Parish, his text being

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Psalm 77. 17, 18, &c. Licensed according to order. London, printed by H. Hills, in Blackfryars, near the water-side."

I place these books on the table for inspection, and proceed to enumerate some others that I have seen, but which I cannot now turn to for making any more detailed reference. Mr. WALFORD then read a number of titles of curious and rare books, among which were, "Harington (Sir John), An Apologie, 1, Or Rather a Retractation; 2, Or Rather a Recantation; 3, Or Rather a Recapitulation; 4, Or Rather a Replication; 5, Or Rather an Examination; 6, Or Rather an Accusation; 7, Or Rather an Explication; 8, Or Rather an Exhortation; 9, Or Rather a Consideration; 10, Or Rather a Confirmation; 11, Or Rather all of them; 12, Or Rather none of them. 1596." "Stirry (Thos.) Rot among the Bishops, or a Terrible Tempest in the See of Canterbury set forth in Lively Emblems to please the Judicious Reader, 1640"; a satire against Archbishop Laud. "A certain Relation of a Hog-faced Gentlewoman, called Mistris Tannakin Skinker, who was born at Whirkham on the Rhyne. . . . . 1640." "March of the Lion, or the Conclusion of the War between Dunce and the Dunces. . . . . containing the progress of the Golden Savage from the Bedford Coffee House in search of new quarters. 1752."

2. *Books I have not seen*:—Among the books enumerated by Mr. WALFORD were, "Joyfull Newes out of the newe founde world, wherein is declared the rare and singular virtues of diverse and sundrie Herbes, Trees, Oyles, Plantes and Stones, by Doctor Monardus of Sevill, Englished by Jhon Frampton, 1577." "Plattes (Gabriel), A Discovery of Subterraneall Treasure, viz., of all Manner of Mines and Minerals, from the Gold to the Coale, Art of Melting, Refining and Assaying of them, etc., 1639." "Griffin (Lewis), The Doctrine of the Asse, an account of their Principles and Practice, in whose behalf the complaint was written, that it may serve for advice to others; whereunto is added, . . . Balaam's Reply and the Author's Reply, 1661." "A Dialogue concerning Decency . . . 1751."

3. *Books I should like to see*:—Among the books mentioned by Mr. WALFORD were, "Avenar (Dr. John, Professor at Witeberge [*sic.*]), The Enemie of Securitie, or a Daily Exercise of Godlie Meditations, for the Profit of all Persons of Anie State or Calling, translated by Thomas Rogers, 1583." A Purge for Pluralites, shewing the Unlawfulnesse of Men to have Two Livings: or the Downe-fall of Double Benefices; being in the Clymactericall and fatall yeare of the proud Prelates, but the year of Jubilee to all poor hunger-pinch'd Schollers, 1642." "Bland (J.), Essay in Praise of Woman, a Looking-glass for Ladies to see their Perfections in. . . . Edinburgh, 1767." "Cupid and Hymen, or a Voyage to Isle of Love and Matrimony, containing a diverting Account of their Inhabitants, with the Bachelor's Estimate of Expenses, and the Married Man's Answer to it, by John Single, of Gray's Inn, 1742."

4. *Books I never expect to see*:—Regarding these books I will be

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vain enough or sanguine enough to hope that they may constitute a constantly decreasing number. Accident rather than design seems to help one respecting them: they turn up unexpectedly in the most unlikely places. While the number thus seems to be steadily decreasing, it is in fact rather rapidly increasing, in the sense that while we know nothing of the actual existence of a book, we are necessarily indifferent about seeing it; but, from the moment that we do get to know that it was once a veritable fact, we are put upon our mettle, and we do not readily abandon hope. One's literary acquaintance here come in of great service—not to beg or to borrow, but to cast about for us. We constitute them into a corps of skirmishers, to search for, verify, and, perchance, produce to our vision that which without them we should at least have a lessened chance of seeing. I have the good fortune to possess several such friends; they fall within the category of Burton's Book-hunter—they are mighty book-hunters. I name one as a sample—Mr. Samuel Timmins. In the trade they are legion. But, notwithstanding the aid of such friends, I own to a misgiving if I shall ever see the following, or any considerable proportion of them:—"Churcheyarde (Thos.), The Miserie of Flaunders, Calamitie of Fraunce, Misfortune of Portugall, Unquietness of Ireland, Troubles of Scotland, and the blessed state of England. 1579." "Fraunce (Abraham), The Lawyer's Logike, exemplifying the Præcepts of Logike by the Practise of the Common Lawe. 1588." "The Counter-Scuffle, whereunto is added the Counter-Rat, written by R. S. 1670." "The Miraculous Power of Clothes, and Dignity of the Taylors, being an Essay on the words 'Clothes make men.' Translated from the German. Philadelphia, Mentz, MDCCLXXII."—Mr. WALFORD then exhibited a number of curious titles from booksellers' catalogues, and concluded as follows:—The foregoing falls very far short of what I had intended my paper to be, or perchance of what it might have been, if time and freedom from my tormentor (gout) had permitted. I trust it may prove sufficient as a text upon which to found a discussion anent special collections, of tracts more particularly. I had intended myself to found upon it some remarks upon the peculiarities of title-pages at different periods of our book history. This must, however, be preserved for another occasion, when time shall have permitted a more complete examination of the subject.

DISCUSSION.—Referring to the reprinted tract, Mr. WILSON said that a great many books of the kind were published in this country during the settlement of the American colonies, and that probably this work had appeared in England under a slightly different title. —Mr. WALFORD said that the entry in the Museum catalogue is of this book with the imprint, Philadelphia.—Prof. JEVONS then, in reference to title pages, said that there was a general character about contemporary titles, so that it was possible to get within fifty years of the publication of the work, from the style of the title-page.

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—Dr. SELIGMANN said that in Germany, attention was paid to the character of the type and paper of undated works.—Mr. WILSON observed that there were some reprints in the last century which were difficult to distinguish, especially when the paper had been much exposed.—Mr. GARNETT mentioned a work by Bernardino Ochino in the British Museum Library, which was in such good condition, that it would appear to be much later than its true date. Books likely to get their possessors into trouble would be better taken care of.—Mr. STEVENS said that a few years ago it was found that the *Nuremberg Chronicle* was not "o. p." and eight copies, unbound and uncut were sent to a London bookseller.—Prof. JEVONS thought that it would be well if the Association were to take up the matter of publication of books without a date, a practice which had extended to some important works, and would hereafter cause much trouble. —Mr. WILSON said that with earlier books, many dates could be ascertained from Mr. Arber's transcript of the Stationers' register, but at present such reference would be too laborious in most cases until the publication of the index.—Prof. JEVONS said that the question of rare tracts was a very interesting subject. Future generations would do much more with them than was done at present, and whole masses of literature would be reprinted, so that anything that tended to preserve even a single copy was important. A large proportion of the books entered in the Stationers' register had already perished.—Mr. STEVENS said that many of them never appeared. Books were often entered some years before publication, and in some cases there had been a provisional entry of books which were never published at all.

A vote of thanks to Mr. WALFORD for his interesting paper, was then carried unanimously.

Among the donations laid on the table, was a copy of the Ronalds Library Catalogue of Works relating to electricity and magnetism, presented by Mr. A. J. FROST, the editor.

The discussion of the resolution as to Parish Registers, (see pp. 32 and 40.) was resumed, when the importance of the subject, and the necessity of some provision for the better preservation of these ancient records were fully recognised, but fears were expressed that a difficulty would arise from opposition on the part of those at present interested in search fees, and the further consideration of the resolution was adjourned until the next meeting.

The library of the Corporation of London, at Guildhall, hitherto closed at 2 p.m. on Saturdays, is now open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. every week day.

Le Livre for last month admits the necessity of fixing upon a new mode of indicating the size of books, now that paper is no longer made by hand on a mould which cannot exceed certain dimensions. But, allowing that all books above 30 centimètres may be regarded as folio, those of 25 as quarto, &c., it insists that there is no need to replace these familiar designations by capital letters likely to be mistaken for unintelligible contractions.

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QUERY.

READING-ROOM TABLES.—Can anyone recommend an improved table for public reading-rooms, in which much writing is done, in place of the long flat-topped tables so generally in use, and which are apt to cause dyspepsia in a student who bends over them for any length of time? Reading-desks, to stand to, may or may not be advisable, but they are not always convenient. Of course it is a *desideratum* that they should not hide the readers from the superintendent of the room.—B. C. O.

NOTICES OF BOOKS AND LIBRARY REPORTS.

Dun Echt Observatory Publications. Classification Scheme, and Index to the same, of the Library of the Observatory; by Lord Lindsay. Dun Echt, 1879. La. 4to, 28 pp.

Lord Lindsay read a paper before the Association in May 1879, describing the classification, which embraces the departments of mathematics, astronomy, and physics. It is partially based upon Mr. Melvil Dewey's decimal system, with the classing extended to four figures of decimals. The index is very extensive, referring to about 1650 subject-headings.

A Bibliography of Printing, with Notes and Illustrations. Compiled by E. C. Bigmore and C. W. H. Wyman. London, B. Quaritch, 1880. Sm. 4to, pp. xii., 449. Vol. I. (A—L.)

Messrs. Bigmore and Wyman are to be congratulated on the first instalment of their laborious and useful undertaking. The titles (though somewhat too brief) appear to be carefully drawn up, and the notes convey much interesting information in a readable manner. The printers' marks might have been increased in number, to the exclusion of some illustrations of a less special interest. The modern literature of printing is better represented than older books, and among the omissions is the important paper of Mr. W. H. Allnutt on the spread of printing throughout England, published in the report of the Oxford meeting of the Association, pp. 101-3, 157-63.

The report of the Wednesbury Free Library, 1879, (Mr. A. Cotgreave, lib.) states that the revival of trade has tended to decrease the issue of books. "The decrease is principally in works of fiction, borrowed from the lending department, the issue of higher class literature from the reference department, having, on the contrary, been nearly double that of last year."

The report of the Plymouth Free Library, 1879, (Mr. W. H. K. Wright, lib.) contains a curious table of the ages of borrowers (not being burgesses), by which it appears that there were enrolled in 1879 no less than 429 under the age of 15, compared with 63 of 60 years and upwards.

London: TRÜBNER & CO., Ludgate Hill.

Single Numbers, Threepence each. Annual Subscription, post free, 3s. 6d.

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No. 7.] [July 15, 1880.

MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

MR. TEDDER has addressed to the Council the following letter :—

Athenæum Club, *July* 1, 1880.

Gentlemen,—I regret to have to inform you that I am at last forced, very unwillingly, to resign my post as one of your honorary secretaries. From the foundation of the Library Association to the present time, it has been a great pleasure to me to have been able to devote all my leisure to the work and interests of the Association, but duties connected with my own library and other undertakings, will make it impossible for me to give the same attention in future to the affairs of the Association, and I therefore feel it my duty to retire in favour of some less busy member.

I remain, Gentlemen, yours very faithfully,
HENRY R. TEDDER.

The Council of the Library Association of the United Kingdom.

This letter having been read at the meeting of the Council on July 2, the following resolution was unanimously passed :—

Resolved, "That the Council receive the resignation of Mr. Tedder with the utmost possible regret, and tender him their sincerest thanks for the invaluable services rendered by him to the Association, from its foundation until now." Mr. Tedder's resignation did not come before the Council unexpectedly, as he had given unofficial notice of his intention at the June meeting. Although Mr. Tedder finds it impossible to continue to act as Secretary, we believe that he will, as a private member, continue to take an active and useful part in the work of the Association. The nomination of a colleague with Mr. E. C. THOMAS, the other honorary Secretary (who may be addressed at 13, South Square, Gray's Inn, W.C.) is deferred.

Arrangements for the approaching annual meeting at Edinburgh are in progress, and an influential local committee are making active preparations to ensure an interesting meeting. The following gentlemen form the committee :—Principal Sir Alexander Grant, Bart.; Professor P. G. Tait; Professor Æ. J. G. Mackay; Bailie Colston; Dr. H. D. Littlejohn; Treasurer Harrison; Dr. William Smith; Dr. G. W. Balfour; Mr. A. Buchan; Mr. T. C. Archer, Vice Dean J. A. Crichton; Mr. A. Blair; Mr. W. Nelson; Hon. J. W. Moncrieff, W.S.; Mr. C. G. Macrae, W.S.; Mr. J. Henry, S.S.C.; Treasurer, Mr. W. F. Dickson, W.S.; Joint Secretaries,

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Mr. T. G. Law, Librarian, Signet Library; Mr. W. Black, Librarian, S.S.C. Library.

The report of the meeting at Manchester, edited by Messrs. Tedder and Thomas, will shortly be in the hands of members. The delay in the production of the volume has been caused by the preparation of some interesting descriptions of the libraries visited by the Association on that occasion.

JULY MONTHLY MEETING.

The ninth Monthly Meeting of the third year of the Association was held at the London Institution on Friday, July 2, 1880, at 8 p.m., Mr. R. Harrison, Treasurer, in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Chairman called on the Secretary to read the following paper by Mr. W. E. Axon, entitled

The Poetry of the Bibliomania.

Of Books I sing. Of all that greets the eye,
Or warms the fancy, and delights the heart,
And touches, by a thousand secret springs,
Congenial, the enraptured soul, in shape
Of Folded Leaves Imprinted, the coy muse,
Willing, yet anxious, now essays to sing.

Dibdin.

Love, love is the song which the Poet ever singeth,
Of which the listening world is never weary.

So sings Alexander Smith, but, like many other beautiful and poetical assertions, it requires to be taken *cum grano salis*, for the poets have sung almost of every subject beneath the sun. Not only have they sung of love but of war, of the glories and triumphs, the groans and agonies of the bloody battle-field. The same hand which wrote the "Economy of Love," indited also the "Art of Cookery." The American epic poet, Joel Barlow, not only celebrated his country's glories in the "Columbiad," but also sung the praise of hasty-pudding. Garth sang of the Dispensary, and Tusser of Husbandry; in short, poets have ransacked heaven and earth for the subjects of their rhymes, and have even ventured into the nethermost world.

What wonder, then, that we should find men who have in song expressed the feelings which arise in the mind on entering the place where—

Old books and manuscripts the age command,
Row above row the precious volumes stand,
In every language, and on every theme,
The mind bewildering as an airy dream.*

What wonder that singers should have arisen to interpret the joys of the Bibliomania! The disease is a widespread one, and many of those who have wooed the muse, have been more or less infected

* "Review of various Schemes of Happiness." By Thomas Cook. London: 1846.

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with it. Scott and Southey were hard and eager book-hunters, and the enthusiasm of Jonathan Oldbuck in his antiquarian raids is only a good-humoured satire on one of the chief passions of the author of Waverley. Look at the noble Abbotsford Library; it is a model of book-hunting energy on many and very different hunting grounds: here a black-letter romance, there a bundle of pedlar's ballads; here a "dapper Elzevir," there a folio of Aldus or Stephens. That Scott was not amenable to the vulgar reproach of not reading the books which he bought, may be seen from the curious and varied learning which he has thrown into the notes to his varied works. These notes alone, if reprinted, would form a very curious commonplace book. We mention these honoured names to show that the Book Disease is one which infects great minds; all literary men—De Quincey to the contrary notwithstanding—are more or less subject to it. Even Johnson, who was barbarously careless in his usage of books, fully estimated the importance of book-collecting. "Un bibliophile après tout n'est qu'un homme perfectionné," and the poet who sublimates into song the joys and sorrows of those earnest students of bibliography, the Book-Hunters, may claim to stand at the head of the tribe.

"The Book-Hunter's Garland" would be a curious addition to our poetical anthologies, if it contained all worth preserving on the pleasures of collecting and possessing books; and it may afford a few moments' amusement to indicate some few articles that could not well be omitted from such a collection. We need not occupy the time by quoting those passages from our great authors in which they have spoken of the value and beauty of the love of books, but will confine ourselves solely to the "Poetry of the Bibliomania."

One of the first victims of that dread disease in its more modern form was Dr. John Ferriar, a worthy of whom the cotton metropolis may be justly proud.

His learning and taste are very strikingly shown in his "Illustrations of Sterne"—a collection of interesting essays under a not very attractive title. Among other claims upon our gratitude, Dr. Ferriar is the author of a small pamphlet of fourteen quarto pages; the title is here transcribed—"The Bibliomania, an epistle, to Richard Heber, Esq. by John Ferriar, M.D. Hic, inquis, veto quisquam faxit oletum. Pinge duos angues.—*Pers. Sat.* 1.*l.* 108. London: Printed for T. Cadell, and W. Davies, in the Strand; by J. Haddock, Warrington. 1809."

Our bibliomaniacal poet first paints the woes of the poor collector:

> What wild desires, what restless torments seize
> The hapless man, who feels the book disease,
> If niggard Fortune cramp his gen'rous mind,
> And Prudence quench the Spark by heaven assign'd!
> With wistful glance his aching eyes behold
> The Princeps-copy, clad in blue and gold,
> Where the tall Book-case, with partition thin,
> Displays, yet guards the tempting charms within:
> So great Facardin view'd, as sages tell,
> Fair Crystalline immur'd in lucid cell.

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The picture of destitution is rendered all the more terrible by a glowing description of the pleasures and advantages of the rich collector. Then follows this passage on one of the characteristics of the tribe :—

Or English books, neglected and forgot,
Excite his wish in many a dusty lot :
Whatever trash Midwinter gave to day,
Or Harper's rhiming sons, in paper gray.
At ev'ry auction, bent on fresh supplies,
He cons his Catalogue with anxious eyes :
Where'er the slim Italics mark the page,
Curious and rare his ardent mind engage.
Unlike the Swans, in Tuscan Song display'd,
He hovers eager o'er Oblivion's Shade,
To snatch obscurest names from endless night,
And give Cokain or Fletcher back to light.
In red morocco drest he loves to boast
The bloody murder, or the yelling ghost ;
Or dismal ballads, sung to crowds of old,
Now cheaply bought for thrice their weight in gold.
Yet to th' unhonour'd dead be satire just ;
Some flow'rs "smell sweet and blossom in their dust."
'Tis thus ev'n Shirley boasts a golden line,
And Lovelace strikes, by fits, a note divine.
Th' unequal gleams like midnight-lightnings play,
And deepen'd gloom succeeds, in place of day.

And, if by this agency some works of merit are rescued from oblivion, if some figures which Time had overturned, are reinstated in their proper niches in the temple of literature, shall we not return due honour to those who have performed the kindly office ?

Here is another passage, in which the poet sings of the devastations of the cook and her assistants. It may be remarked that Ferriar speaks not of that bugbear of modern authors, the trunk-maker :—

The menial train has proved the Scourge of wit,
Ev'n Omar burnt less Science than the spit ;
Earthquakes and wars remit their deadly rage
But ev'ry feast demands some fated page.
Ye Towers of Julius, ye alone remain
Of all the piles that saw our nation's stain,
When Harry's sway opprest the groaning realm,
And Lust and Rapine seiz'd the wav'ring helm.
Then ruffian-hands defaced the sacred fanes,
Their saintly statues, and their storied panes ;
Then from the chest, with ancient art embost,
The Penman's pious scrolls were rudely tost ;
Then richest manuscripts, profusely spread,
The brawny Churl's devouring Oven fed ;
And thence Collectors date the heav'nly ire,
That wrapt Augusta's domes in sheets of fire.

One more quotation from Dr. Ferriar will suffice. He preaches fatalism in this charming strain :—

Like Poets, born, in vain Collectors strive
To cross their Fate, and learn the art to thrive.
Like Cacus, bent to tame their struggling will,
The tyrant passion drags them backward still :

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Ev'n I, debarr'd of ease, and studious hours,
Confess, 'mid anxious toil, its lurking pow'rs,
How pure the joy, when first my hands unfold
The small rare volume, black with tarnish'd gold!
The Eye skims restless, like the roving bee,
O'er flowers of wit, or song, or repartee,
While sweet as Springs, new-bubbling from the stone,
Glides through the breast some pleasing theme unknown.

The perusal of this brochure suggested to Dr. Dibdin the idea of his "Bibliomania," a book still dear to those who are engaged in the pursuit of books.

Dibdin aspired to be not only the historian, but the poet of bibliography. In 1812 he printed a tract of twenty-four pages, containing 554 lines of verse on Bibliography. The edition was restricted to fifty copies. This is amongst the "books I have not seen," and also amongst the "books I should like to see."

Let us now examine a brochure of four pages, and of a different character altogether, and as a sample of bibliomaniacal conviviality, I will reproduce this jovial ballad in full.

RATIONAL MADNESS.

A Song, for the Lovers of Curious and Rare Books: adapted to the popular tune of "Liberty Hall."—*Only fifty printed for private circulation.*

I.

Come, boys, fill your glasses, and fill to the brim,
Here's the essence of humour, the soul too of whim!
Attend and receive (and sure this is no vapour),
A "hap'worth of wit on a pennyworth of paper."

II.

Strange songs have strange songsters, thus madness to praise,
A man must be mad ere his voice he can raise;
By our madness alone then, without more pretence,
We'll prove to the world that we're all men of sense!

III.

Those joys which the *Bibliomania* affords,
Are felt and acknowledged by *Dukes* and by *Lords!*
And the finest estate would be offer'd in vain,
For an *exemplar* bound by the fam'd *Roger Payne!*

IV.

To a proverb goes madness with love hand in hand,
But *our* senses we yield to a double command:
The *dear frenzy* in both is first rous'd by fair looks,—
Here's our sweethearts, my boys! not forgetting our books!

V.

Though all ruled by one wish, and though beauty is *rare*,
If we miss a *tall copy*, we find one that's *fair;*
Our delight may this prove, and though often *reprinted*,
To one copy alone the *impression* be stinted.

VI.

By learning ennobled, we're careless of gain;
Of envy or malice we ne'er know the pain:
Take away the *world's prize*, we remain still unvext,
We've our "meadow of margin and river of text."

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VII.

Thus our time may we pass with *rare books and rare friends*,
Growing wiser and better, till life itself ends:
And may those who delight not in black-letter lore,
By some obsolete act be sent from our shore!

VIII.

May some worthy brother his finger soon put
On a Caxton *unique*, or a Wynkyn *uncut!*
Yet pardon, I pray, the offence of my pen,—
May a soft "Pricke of Conscience" *occur* now and then!

IX.

Thus bless'd with possessions unrivalled on earth,
May each coming day to new pleasures give birth!
And our joys be unmixt and secure to the last,
If we look to the future or think on the past!

J. M.

These are the initials of John Major, the publisher of the most magnificent edition of Izaak Walton's "Complete Angler" ever issued from the press. Major was a man of exquisite taste in matters typographical, but the world did not smile on him, and though he bore a brave heart through it all, and wrote and sang jovial songs, of which the above is a specimen, he could not win the favour of Dame Fortune, and at last sought refuge from the storms of adverse fate in the Charter House, where he died on the 9th of January, 1849.*

"The Bibliomaniac Ballad, by Cristofer Valdarfer," we learn from Mr. Olphar Hamst's *Handbook of Fictitious Names*, is a production of Joseph Haslewood.

It is dedicated

To the Roxburghe Club, by way of dedication,
And all blackletter dogs who have passed initiation: These.

And opens thus:—

My late good-natur'd Eame oft would preach long and sage,
Censure idling of youth, extol virtues of age:
For he lov'd his old acres, old woods, and old rooks,
And his old easy chair, with old wine, and old books.
As he's dead, it were well in his library seat,
Conning technical phrases that he'd oft repeat,
And old printers names from their colophons catch,
To write life, bibl'ographic:—take scrip of the sketch.
Though born Georgii Primo he a Caxton would prize,
'Bove ten full-bottom'd Caxons to curl round his eyes;
And the spell of black letter he ne'er thought absurd,
For Young bibliomaniacs love Wynkyn the Worde.
In a rebus no lady was half so deep read,
Or statesman with devices e'er cramm'd so his head;
He his creed thought unknown, but for Whitchurch would pray,
And in dark Winter's morn, cry: "Arise, it is Day!"
Thus his heart was unbound, as love's Bower gave room,
Widow Yetsweirt was there, and the widows Joan Broome,
Joan Wolfe and Joan Orwin, and while soft things he'd utter,
Of famous Joan Jugge, he would melt for Joan Butter.

* *Gentleman's Magazine*, March, 1849, p. 322.

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Our last extract shows that even Bibliomaniacs are mortal, and must yield them to the power of Death; who enters the snug library, and strikes them down in the midst of their treasures.

But he's gone :—can one Triplet his memory save,
Can his Bishop interr him ? his Boys Wal-de-Grave ?
With but putting in boards can his spirit be fled ?
Why he ne'er got a Coffin until he was dead !
Ah, no, with his volumes would tarry his soul,
Could folios, could big-belly'd quartos controul,
Or octavos et infra ; nay, studious be seen,
With a twelve in morocco, or russia sixteen.
Shade of Paterson, shall his collection disperse,
And one alphabet crush ev'ry class, prose and verse ?
Nor tell all that the *imp.* on fly-leaf can portend ?
Nor *imp.* that he hallow'd and no devil would mend ?

This is one of those considerations which must embitter even the pleasantest thoughts of the Book-Hunter. That wondrous creation—his library—which he has evoked from the chaos of old book-shops, from a thousand nooks and corners beyond the ken of ordinary mortals, must in process of time return to chaos again.

The magnificent collections of Heber are now but a name. The only remedy is to follow the example of the Right Hon. Thomas Grenville, who left his fine collection to the nation, and so earned the lasting gratitude of the student and book-lovers of all succeeding generations.

Another trifle of unknown origin is a description of the Bookworm—the human variety that is.

The Bokeworme sitteth in his celle,
He studyethe all alone,
And burnethe oute the oile,
'Till ye midnight hour is gone.
Then gethe he downe upon his bedde,
Ne mo watch will he a-keepe,
He layethe his heade on ye pillowe,
And eke he tryes to sleepe.
Then swyfte there cometh a vision grimme,
and greethythe him sleeynge fair,
And straighte hee dreameth of grislie dreames,
And dreades fellowne and rayre.
His spirit yt swynketh all the daye,
Still laborethe in the night,
And flyethe oute among deadlie things,
And things with tremoure dight.
And when he riseth in morrowe's prime
His cheeke lookethe wondrous wyte,
And his eyne are redde and dimme
Wyth wasting over night.
His head dothe ache for want of rest,
His throate is hot and dry,
For when he burnethe the midnight oile
Grim Deathe standethe him by.
Wherefore, if cravest life to eld
Ne rede longe uppe at night,
But go to bed at curfew bell
And ryse wythe mornynge's lyte.

E. B. B.

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We know what pleasant memories are associated with the volumes bearing on them the device of the anchor used by the family of Aldus, printers who have achieved enduring fame for the beauty of their typography. Not less pleasant are the associations with the imitation of their device used by William Pickering, the most tasteful of English publishers. The Rev. John Mitford upon one occasion wrote a little impromptu, containing allusion to the devices used by several printers, and ending with well-deserved good wishes to William Pickering :—

Impromptu. By the Rev. John Mitford.

[Here is Pickering's device.]

"Let your emblems or devices be a dove, or a fish or a musical lyre, or a naval anchor."

Would you still be safely landed,
On the *Aldine Anchor* ride ;
Never yet was vessel stranded
With the *Dolphin* by its side.

Fleet is *Wechel's* flying courser,
A bold and bridleless steed is he ;
But when winds are piping hoarser
The *Dolphin* rides the stormy sea.

Stephens was a noble printer,
Of knowledge firm he fixt his *Tree ;*
But time in him made many a splinter
As old *Elzevir* in thee.

Whose name the bold *Digamma* hallows
Knows how well his page it decks ;
But black it looks as any gallows
Fitted for poor authors' necks.

Nor time nor envy e'er shall canker
The sign that is my lasting pride :
Joy, then, to the *Aldine Anchor*,
And the *Dolphin* at its side !

To the *Dolphin*, as we're drinking,
Life, and health, and joy we send ;
A poet once he saved from sinking,
And still he lives, the poet's friend.

This bit of cardboard is now but rarely seen, although it has been reprinted within recent years.

Discussion.—Mr. B. R. Wheatley said that he possessed a copy of Dibdin's poem ; it purported to be the first book of a poem in six books, and principally related to the sales of rare books by the principal booksellers of the time.—Mr. Tedder regretted that Dibdin had fallen into such disrepute, but he unfortunately wrote in a pert style, scarcely befitting the dignity of his subject. His great knowledge of bibliography could not be denied.—Mr. Harrison mentioned that the Roxburgh sale, so famous in the annals of bibliography, took place in the house next door to that now occupied by the London Library.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Axon for his interesting paper was then carried unanimously.

Among the donations laid upon the table was a copy of the Catalogue of the Library of the Pharmaceutical Society, presented by Mr. J. W. Knapman, the compiler.

Mr. Reginald Hanson, a member of this Association and late Chairman of the Library Committee of the Corporation of London, was, on the 1st inst., elected Alderman of London for the Ward of Billingsgate.

London: TRÜBNER & CO., Ludgate Hill.

Single Numbers, Threepence each. Annual Subscription, post free, 3s. 6d.

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

THE following notice as to the Annual Meeting has been issued by the Council:—

21*st July*, 1880.

DEAR SIR,

The Third Annual Meeting of our Association will be held at Edinburgh, in the Rooms of the Royal Society, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the 5th, 6th, and 7th of October. The Libraries of Scotland will naturally engage our particular notice; and it is proposed to devote special attention to the subjects of Classification and Binding. The Council will be glad to receive offers of papers at once; and also to learn if you propose to attend. Further arrangements will be duly announced.

Yours faithfully, ERNEST C. THOMAS, *Secretary*,
2, *South Square, Gray's Inn, London, W.C.*

N.B.—The Committees (of the whole Association) on special subjects will meet on Friday next, and on the first and third Fridays of August, at 7 p.m., at the London Institution, to consider their Reports.

Members who intend to be present at the meeting at Edinburgh are requested to inform the Secretary by letter or post-card as soon as possible. The information will greatly assist the Officers in London, as well as the Local Committee, in making arrangements for the meeting.

Nominations for the Council, and notices of motion for the Annual Meeting, must be sent to the Secretary before the 5th September, in accordance with the constitution.

The Council cannot undertake to consider any paper unless it is received by the 15th September.

The Treasurer requests that those members who have not paid their subscriptions for the present year will do so at once, that the amount may be duly entered in the forthcoming balance-sheet, which will be made up to the 10th September.

Post Office Orders to be made payable to Mr. R. HARRISON, of the London Library, at the St. James's Street Post Office, S.W.

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The preparations for our meeting at Edinburgh are steadily proceeding, and there is every reason to expect a fair representation of our members. Papers are expected on "The Early History of Printing in Scotland;" "The Origin and Growth of the several Libraries in Edinburgh;" "Some of the Causes of the Rarity of Rare Books;" "Buckram: A Palinode."

The Local Committee have issued the following circular:—

Library Association of the United Kingdom.

EDINBURGH MEETING, 1880.

SIR,—We beg to inform you that the THIRD ANNUAL MEETING of the LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM will be held in Edinburgh, on *Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the 5th, 6th, and 7th of October*, 1880.

The main object of the Association is to unite all persons engaged or interested in Library work, for the purpose of promoting the best possible administration of existing Libraries, the formation of new Libraries, and the spread of information tending to further those objects, and for the encouragement of Bibliographical Research.

The Meetings of the Association will be held in the ROYAL SOCIETY'S ROOMS, ROYAL INSTITUTION, and special visits will be arranged to various Libraries and other Institutions.

Subscribers of 10*s.* 6*d.* or upwards will be admitted as Members of the Association for the current year, with full privileges, including the right to the printed Report of the Proceedings.

Subscribers of 5*s.* will be admitted as Associates for the Meeting, with the right to attend the Meetings; but they shall not be entitled to receive the Printed Report, be Members of any Committee, or hold any office.

The Local Committee appointed to make arrangements for the forthcoming Meeting invite you to contribute to the Fund for the necessary expenses, to meet which it is estimated that a sum of at least £160 will be required.

The Subscriptions may be sent to the Treasurer, W. TRAQUAIR DICKSON, Esq., W.S., 4, Hill Street, Edinburgh.

We have the honour to remain your obedient Servants,

THOS. G. LAW, *Signet Library*,
WM. BLACK, *S.S.C. Library*, } *Secretaries.*

AUGUST MEETING.

In accordance with the notice given above, the Monthly Meeting for August was not held, and the Committees of the whole Association met to consider their reports.

COMMITTEE ON TITLE-ENTRIES.

The following Report has been presented to the Council by the Special Committee (of the whole Association), and is now printed for the information of members. It will be formally presented to the Association for acceptance at the Edinburgh Meeting.

REPORT.

The Committee on this subject have carried out the instructions given to them by the Association at Manchester. They have held many meetings during the past year, and have had the advantage of specially conferring with Mr. Bullen and Mr. Garnett of the British Museum. The rules for title-entries, as presented to the

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Association last year, have been carefully reconsidered, and many additions have been made. They have dealt with the subject of size-notation, which was committed to them at Manchester, and hope that the solution they have suggested of this troublesome and complicated question may be found satisfactory. They recommend that the rules as now drafted shall be the

CATALOGUING RULES OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

TITLE.

1. The title is to be an exact transcription from the title-page, neither amended, translated, nor in any way altered, except that mottoes, repetitions, and matter of any kind not essential are to be omitted. The punctuation of the title need not be strictly adhered to. Exact transcript.

2. Where great accuracy is desirable, omissions are to be indicated by a group of three dots (. . .) Omissions.

3. The titles of books especially valuable for antiquity or rarity, may be given in full, with the exact punctuation. Full.

4. In English, initial capitals are to be given to proper names of persons and personifications, places, bodies, noted events, and periods (each separate word not an article, conjunction, or preposition being capitalized in these cases); to adjectives and other words derived from proper names when they have a direct reference to the person, place, &c., from which they are derived; to the first word of every quoted title; to titles of honour, when standing instead of a proper name (*e.g.* Earl of Derby, but John Stanley, earl of Derby). Capitalization.

5. In foreign languages, capitalization is to follow the local usage.

6. In doubtful cases capitals are to be avoided.

VOLUMES, SIZE, PLACE, DATE, &C.

7. Other particulars are to be given after the title in the following order, those printed in italics being optional:—

(*a.*) The edition as specified on the title-page. Incunabula to be notified.

(*b.*) The number of volumes, if more than one.

(*c.*) *If there be only one volume, the number of pages to be indicated by giving the last number of each pagination, connecting the numbers by the sign + ; the same sign added at the end indicating additional matter unpaged other than advertisements.*

(*d.*) *The number of separate illustrations, maps or portraits.*

(*e.*) The size.

(*f.*) The place of publication, *and the publisher's name.*

(*g.*) The year as given on the title-page, but in arabic figures.

(*h.*) The year of actual publication if known to be different, in brackets.

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Language of Title and Imprint.

8. These title and imprint entries are to be as far as possible in the language of the title, corrections and additions being enclosed in square brackets.

Contents and Notes.

9. Contents of volumes are to be given when expedient.

10. Notes explanatory or illustrative, or descriptive of bibliographical and other peculiarities, including imperfections, to be subjoined when necessary. Tables of contents and notes to be in smaller type.

Headings.

Books are to be entered—

Surnames. 11. Under the surnames of authors when stated on the title-page or in any other part of the book, with the fore-name in brackets.

Initials. 12. Under the initials of authors' names when these only are known, the last initial being put first.

Pseudonyms. 13. Under the pseudonyms of the writers when the real names do not appear.

Editors. Collections. 14. Under the names of editors of collections, with cross-references from the catch-titles of such collections; each separate item to be at the same time sufficiently catalogued under its own heading, as a cross-reference to the main entry.

Publishing bodies. 15. Under the names of countries and cities, societies, or other bodies which are responsible for their publication.

Periodicals. 16. Under the first word, not an article, of the titles of periodicals.

Anonymous books. 17. Under the chief subject-word of the titles of anonymous books, and, where advisable, with a cross-reference under any other noticeable word.

Commentaries, Translations. 18. Commentaries with the text, and translations, are to be entered under the heading of the original work; but commentaries without the text under the name of the commentator.

Bible. 19. The Bible, or any part of it in any language, is to be under the word Bible, the separate parts classed in the order of the authorized version, polyglots and original texts coming first, followed by English translations; the other versions in alphabet of languages.

Liturgies. 20. Service and Prayer-books used by any Church or religious community are to be placed under the head of Liturgies, with a sub-head of the Church or religious community.

Several authors. 21. Books having more than one author or editor, are to be entered under the one first named in the title, with a cross-reference under each of the others.

Translators, Commentators, Editors, Preface Writers. 22. Names of translators, commentators, editors and preface writers, if they do not occur in the title-page, are to be added within square brackets, a cross-reference being made in each case.

Theses. 23. The respondent or defender of an academical thesis is to be

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considered as the author, unless the work unequivocally appears to be the work of the præses.

24. Reports of civil actions are to be entered under the name of the party to the suit which stands first on the title-page. Reports of criminal proceedings are to be entered under the name of the defendant. Admiralty proceedings relating to vessels are to be entered under the name of the vessel. Trials.

25. Catalogues are to be entered under the name of the institution, or owner of the collection, with a cross-reference to the compiler. Catalogues.

26. Noblemen are to be entered under the family name, a cross-reference under the title being made in every case. Noblemen.

27. Ecclesiastical dignitaries, unless popes or sovereign princes, under their surnames; the highest title to be added, with a cross-reference from the title employed in the book. Ecclesiastics.

28. All persons generally known by a fore-name are to be so entered, the English form being used in the case of sovereigns, popes, ruling princes, oriental writers, friars, and persons canonized. Sovereigns, Popes, Princes, Orientals, Friars, Saints.

29. Married women and other persons who have changed their names to be put under the last authorized form, unless they continue to be known in literature only under their original names. Married women. Change of name.

30. In the heading of titles, the names of authors are to be given in full, and in their vernacular form; authors generally known under their Latin or Latinized names are to be entered under those names, the vernacular name being added after the first entry and a cross-reference being made. Names in full. Latinized.

31. English and French surnames beginning with a prefix (except the French de and d') are to be recorded under the prefix; in other languages under the word following. Prefixes.

32. English compound surnames are to be entered under the last part of the name; foreign ones under the first part; cross-references being given in all instances. Compound names.

33. When an author has been known by more than one name, references should be inserted from the name or names not used as headings to the one used. Several names.

34. A society is to be entered under the first word, not an article, of its corporate name, with references from any other name by which it is known, and from the name of the place where its head-quarters are established. Societies.

Size.

35. The following are to be the only denominations of size used:—La. f° ("large folio"), f° ("folio"), sm. f° ("small folio"), la. 4° ("large quarto"), 4° ("quarto"), sm. 4° ("small quarto"), la. 8° ("large octavo"), 8° ("octavo"), sm. 8° ("small octavo"), 12° ("duodecimo"), 18° ("decimo-octavo"), and m° ("minimo"), with the addition for unusual size of sq. ("square"), nar. ("narrow"), ob. ("oblong").

36. The following are to be the superior limits in height for each Measurements of size.

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size, the inferior limit of each size being the superior limit of the size below it :—

		in.
la.	f° over	18
	f° below	18
sm.	f° ,,	13
la.	8° ,,	11
	8° ,,	9
sm.	8° } 12° } ,,	8
	18° is	6
	m° below	6

		in.
la.	4° below	15
	4° ,,	11
sm.	4° ,,	8

The width of each of these three sizes being at least 4-5ths of its height.

Alteration of size.

37. Where the size of a book has been altered from one of the above sizes to another by cutting down or inlaying, the original size is to be given with the altered size added in square brackets.

Miscellaneous.

Omissions. Continuations.

38. The heading is not to be repeated; a single indent or dash indicates the omission of the preceding heading or title. A dash following a number signifies continuation.

Arrangement.

39. Entries under the surname only are to precede fuller entries under the same name; where the initials only of the pre-names are given, they are to precede full entries with the same initials. The prefixes M' and Mc are to be arranged as if written in full Mac.

40. The works of an author are to be arranged in the following order :—

(*a.*) Collected works.
(*b.*) Partial collections.
(*c.*) Individual works.
(*d.*) Translations in the same order, in alphabetical order of languages.

Biographies.

41. Cross-references are to be given from the subjects of biographies to their writers, and from the writers of books illustrating the lives or works of individuals, to the names of such persons.

Alphabetization.

42. The order of alphabetization is to be that of the English alphabet.

Composite headings.

43. In composite headings, the first word is alone to be considered.

Persons and places.

44. Names of persons are to precede similar names of places.

Transliteration.

45. Headings and titles in foreign characters may be transliterated.

ä, ö, ü.

46. The German ae, oe, and ue are always to be written ä, ö, ü, and arranged as a, o, u.

Figures.

47. Arabic figures are to be used rather than Roman; but Roman figures may be used after the names of sovereigns, princes, and popes, and may be used to designate the number of a volume followed by a page number.

Authors of the same name.

48. Designations are to be added to distinguish writers of the same name from each other.

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49. The languages in which a book is written are to be stated when there are several, and the fact is not mentioned in the title-page. Language.

LIBRARY NOTES.

The *Library Journal* for June announces that with this number, and until further notice, the periodical will be suspended as a separate publication, and its practical features merged in the *Publishers' Weekly*, commencing with the first number, July 3rd, of Vol. XVIII. of that periodical. The publisher is forced to this course by the inadequacy of the support of the Journal, which has made its publication almost a continuous loss from the beginning.

Arrangements have been made for the continuation in the *Publishers' Weekly* of the departments of Bibliography and of Pseudonyms and Anonyms, under their respective special editors; and it is intended to group these departments, the reports from the Library Associations, and the shorter articles of practical value, in the first issue of the *Publishers' Weekly* for each month, while the general notes and like matter will be continued in that periodical as "Library Notes" from issue to issue.

The *Publishers' Weekly* will accordingly be supplied to subscribers to the *Library Journal* to the end of 1880, and the difference in price will be made up by sending to all subscribers to the *Library Journal* a copy of the report of the Conference of 1880, which it is proposed to issue in a similar style to the *Library Journal*, so that it may be bound up as part of Vol. V. In a footnote, it is stated that another mode of adjusting is now under consideration. This is, to supply present subscribers, at the end of the year, with a reprint of the library matter in the *Publishers' Weekly*, similar in type with the Journal, thus with title and index virtually completing the volume.

The members of our Association must deeply regret the suspension of the *Library Journal* as a separate publication, and we must all hope that the expectations of the publisher, as regards the revival of the Journal, may be realized. From its foundation, in September, 1876, the *Library Journal* has done a good work for our profession, and the enterprise and public spirit of its conductors, Mr. Melvil Dewey and Mr. R. R. Bowker, deserve the highest praise.

Mr. A. COTGREAVE, of the Wednesbury Free Library, and the inventor of an Indicator which he described at the Meeting of our Association at Manchester, has been appointed Librarian of the new Public Library at Richmond.

Professor WILMANNS, the head of the University Library of Göttingen, is now in England visiting our great libraries and

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studying their arrangements, with the view of selecting the best system for the new Göttingen Library.

The Conference at Washington, of the American Library Association, will probably take place in December next.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

Catalogue of Books and Papers relating to Electricity, Magnetism, the Electric Telegraph, &c., including the Ronalds Library. Compiled by Sir Francis Ronalds, F.R.S. With a Biographical Memoir of the Author. Edited by Alfred J. Frost, Librarian of the Society of Telegraph Engineers. London, E. and F. N. Spon, 1880. 8vo, pp. 564.

An author catalogue, comprising the titles of about 13,000 books and papers, including about 4,000 titles of books not in the library, and forming an extensive bibliography of Electricity and Magnetism. Books not in the library are denoted by a distinguishing mark, and brief notes of the date of birth and death of authors are appended wherever it has been possible. A memoir of Sir F. Ronalds has been prefixed by the editor.

Catalogue of the Library of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Third edition. Compiled by John William Knapman, Librarian. Appended is the Catalogue of the Library of the North British Branch. London, printed for the Society, 1880. 8vo, pp. 445.

A dictionary catalogue of a library of about 7,000 volumes and pamphlets on pharmacy, materia medica and the accessory sciences, as botany, chemistry, physics, &c. Authors and subjects are arranged in one alphabet, and distinguished by difference in type. The number of pages in single volumes is carefully noted. Sizes of volumes are not noted.

The Free Libraries of Scotland. By an Assistant Librarian. Glasgow, John Smith and Son, 129, West George Street, 1880. 8vo, pp. 32.

An interesting sixpenny pamphlet, giving a short account of the progress of the Free Library movement in Scotland, with statistics and particulars as to each free library.

Aggravating Ladies: Being a List of Works Published under the Pseudonym of "A Lady." With Preliminary Suggestions on the Art of Describing Books Bibliographically. By Olphar Hamst. [*Pseud., i.e.* Ralph Thomas.] London, B. Quaritch, 1880. 16mo, pp. 58.

Containing the titles of 151 works during the present century, under the pseudonym of "A Lady," preceded by short dissertations on the principal points in the description of books, and on the means of identifying the authors of anonymous publications.

London: TRÜBNER & CO., Ludgate Hill.

Single Numbers, Threepence each. Annual Subscription, post free, 3s. 6d.

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

We have not yet received the programme of proceedings for the Annual Meeting. The Secretary will send a notice to members by post, as soon as the arrangements are complete. In the meantime, communications with regard to the local arrangements may be sent to the Local Secretaries at Edinburgh—Mr. T. G. Law, Signet Library; and Mr. W. Black, S.S.C. Library.

The Secretary has received notice of the following nominations. —For Vice-President: Mr. H. R. Tedder. For the Council: Messrs. J. B. Bailey, J. P. Briscoe, A. Cotgreave, A. J. Frost, J. W. Knapman, C. Madeley, Professor Henry Morley, Henry Stevens, H. R. Tedder, W. S. W. Vaux, C. Welch and W. H. K. Wright. For Secretaries: Messrs. E. C. Thomas and C. Welch. (A copy of the voting paper which will be used at the Annual Meeting will be found on page 71.)

The Secretary has also received notice of the following motions to be proposed at the Edinburgh Meeting:—

From Mr. A. J. Frost:—"That the date of future Annual Meetings be fixed earlier than the month of October."

From Mr. E. B. Nicholson:—"That it be an instruction to the Council to send to all bookbinders in the Bookbinder's Trade Directory a circular letter, containing such enquiries as it may be desirable to make, and inviting answers, suggestions, and scales of prices. And that the results be laid before the Association at its next yearly meeting, together with such samples of binding as the Council may think fit to obtain.

"That this Association is in favour of the general principle of opening public libraries, museums, and other galleries for some part at least of every Sunday; though particular local circumstances may sometimes render the present application of this principle useless or undesirable."

From Mr. H. R. Tedder:—"That it is desirable that the Council of this Association should take steps to consider how library assistants may best be aided in their training in the general principles of their profession."

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REPORT OF THE MANCHESTER MEETING.

We are glad to state that the long-expected Report of the Manchester Meeting (edited by Messrs. Tedder and Thomas) will be in the hands of members in a few days. It will be a handsome volume, printed by the Chiswick Press in the same form as the Transactions and Proceedings of the London and Oxford Meetings. The delay in its production is the subject of much regret to the Editors, but it has been caused by matters entirely beyond their control. Besides the reports presented at Manchester, and a full account of all the discussions and proceedings (including the speeches at the Salford banquet), the book contains the following papers:—Opening address, by Alderman T. Baker; the consolidation and amendment of the Public Libraries Acts, by E. B. Nicholson; the grouping of populous places for library purposes, by G. Lamb Campbell; the employment of young women as assistants in public free libraries, by Alderman T. Baker; lectures in connection with public free libraries, by W. H. Bailey; the public free library and the board school, by Wm. H. K. Wright; the provision of novels in rate-supported libraries, by J. Taylor Kay; the libraries of Lancashire and Cheshire, by Wm. E. A. Axon; special collections of books in Lancashire and Cheshire, by J. H. Nodal; the co-operative libraries of Lancashire, Yorkshire and Durham, by E. Barnish; the destruction of libraries by fire, considered practically and historically, by C. Walford; an indicator-book, by A. Cotgreave; the card-ledger, a charging system without writing, by G. Parr; an indicator-catalogue and charging system, by Wm. H. K. Wright; classification in public libraries, by H. Wilson; and a note on the classifications used in reporting statistics of issues in public free libraries, by J. Taylor Kay. The volume also includes historical and descriptive accounts of the Manchester and Salford libraries visited by the Association. The Appendix comprises some very valuable matter, including suggestions on size-notation, by Professor W. Stanley Jevons, J. Winter Jones, W. H. Overall, E. A. Roy, P. Viollet, B. R. Wheatley, and J. Vernon Whitaker; the statistical report, in an amended form (in four large folding tables), of the local secretaries on public free libraries; statistical details concerning the special collections of Lancashire and Cheshire described in Mr. Nodal's important paper; a large folding table furnishing returns respecting co-operative societies' libraries; a chronological sketch of the destruction of libraries by fire in ancient and modern times, and of other severe losses of books and MSS. by fire or water; and specimens of a co-ordinative catalogue and subject-index. A very full index completes the work.

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REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

THE Council are glad to present to the members of the Library Association of the United Kingdom their third Annual Report on the work of the Association during the year.

The Annual Meeting at Manchester, in September, 1879, was in no way less successful than that held at Oxford. This was largely due to the efforts of the Local Committee; and the Council are happy to have this opportunity of renewing their acknowledgments to the members of that committee, as well as to all those friends in Manchester and its neighbourhood, who by their hospitality contributed to render our meeting so agreeable.

As in previous years, the editing and preparation of the printed report of the "Transactions and Proceedings" have entailed very considerable labours upon the secretaries. With regard to its production, Mr. B. F. Stevens consented to renew his former liberal arrangement, and thus the volume shows no falling off in typographical perfection.

Monthly Meetings.—The use of their committee-room has been very kindly continued to us by the Board of Management of the London Institution, and the Council beg to offer their hearty thanks on behalf of the Association. Nine monthly meetings have been held during the year, reports of which have duly appeared in the *Monthly Notes*, as well as in the *Library Journal*.

At the first meeting (November 7) a paper was read by Mr. W. Brace on "Early Catalogues of the Dutch Church Library, 1650–68." Mr. Scarse's Standard Book-Scale was exhibited, and also a specimen of the Dundee Indicator. Mr. Welch showed a handy reference bundle of specimens of leather for binding. The new catalogue of the Library of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, by Mr. B. R. Wheatley, was also shown.

At the second meeting (December 5), Mr. Cornelius Walford delivered a "Talk about American Libraries and Librarians." Mr. Parr's Index-Ledger was exhibited in actual working in the London Institution Library.

At the third meeting (January 2), a paper was read by Mr. W. E. A. Axon on "The Functions of a National Library: a Reply to Mr. W. P. Courtney;" and a paper by Mr. William Blades on "The Development of Books and their Size-Notation."

At the fourth meeting (February 6), a paper was read by Mr. R. Harrison on "Dr. Priestley and his Relation to Proprietary Libraries;" and a paper by Mr. J. B. Bailey on "Some Points to be Considered in preparing Catalogues of Transactions and Periodicals." A MS. catalogue of books and MSS. issued before MDC., belonging to Owens College, was exhibited.

At the fifth meeting (March 5), a paper was read by Mr. T. W. Shore on "Librarians and Ancient Parish Registers." Some remarks on Mr. Bailey's paper on "Catalogues of Transactions and Periodicals," by Mr. T. W. Newton, with a reply by Mr. Bailey, were also read.

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At the sixth meeting (April 2), a paper was read by Mr. B. R. Wheatley, entitled "Thoughts on Title-Taking; Trite, Trivial, and Tentative."

At the seventh meeting (May 7), a paper was read by Mr. Henry Wilson, of the British Museum, entitled "Remarks on Facsimile Reproduction." Specimens of a new cloth for binding purposes were exhibited by Mr. Winterbottom.

At the eighth meeting (June 4), a paper was read by Mr. Cornelius Walford on "Books I have Seen; Books I have Not Seen; Books I should Like to See; Books I never Expect to See."

At the ninth meeting (July 2), a paper was read by Mr. W. E. A. Axon on "The Poetry of the Bibliomania."

Instead of the usual Monthly meeting on August 6, the Special Committees met to consider their Reports, and the Council suspended the meeting for September.

Sub-Committees.—The Committees on Special Subjects have met during the year on the third Friday of each month. They have been engaged on the following subjects:—1. General Catalogue of English Literature; 2. Title Entries (including Size-Notation); 3. Indicators. The two former committees have been Committees of the whole Association, and have of course met in London. The Committee on Indicators has held its meetings at Birmingham. Reports on these different subjects will be presented to the Association at Edinburgh.

Obituary.—During the year we have lost by death one of our honorary members, Mrs. Cornelia B. Olmsted, Librarian of the Wadsworth Library, Geneseo Village, N.Y., who was present at the London Conference, in 1877; and one of our members, Mr. John J. Rogers, of Penrose, Helston.

Members.—On the 10th of September, 1880, the names of 240 members appear upon our roll, including 27 honorary members. Of these 208 appear to be actually engaged in library administration as librarians or members of library committees, and 32 consist of those interested in library work. The number of libraries represented by our members is 140. Some addition to our numbers may be hoped for at Edinburgh.

Finance.—The Treasurer's balance-sheet shows our income, for the year ending September 10, to have been £148 15 11 (including the balance from last year), and our expenditure £109 11 8, leaving a balance of £39 4 3. Of this, a sum of £20 has been invested during the year.

Officers.—The Council are sorry to have to record that in the course of this year they have lost the invaluable services of Mr. Henry R. Tedder, who has been a Secretary of the Association from its original formation. In accepting Mr. Tedder's resignation on July 2, they resolved: "That the Council receive the resignation of Mr. Tedder with the utmost possible regret, and tender him their sincerest thanks for the invaluable services rendered by him to the Association, from its foundation until now."

Public Libraries Acts.—It will doubtless be remembered that

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the Association, at its last yearly meeting, instructed the Council to promote the early introduction into Parliament of a Bill for consolidating and amending the Public Libraries Acts (England), on the lines suggested by Messrs. Nicholson and Campbell. As the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association already had the same subject in view, and were able to avail themselves of the advice and assistance of influential members of Parliament, the Council determined to join action with them. A Bill was drafted in the early summer by Messrs. Nicholson and Tedder, and though the course of public business has prevented its introduction during the past session, the Council have reason to believe that next session it will be brought in without fail, and will receive powerful support. The Council have also placed at the disposal of the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association a sufficient number of copies of the Statistical Report, prepared by Messrs. Sutton and Campbell, to enable them to send one to each member of Parliament. A most energetic attempt last year by the Rev. Dr. Charles Rogers to induce the ratepayers of Camberwell to adopt the Acts gave a further evidence of the futility of such attempts in London under the system of public polling. The motion to adopt the Acts, was carried at the public meeting by a good majority, but only about one-eleventh of the ratepayers came to the poll; and, although the use of Board-schools had been promised, and a halfpenny rate only was to have been asked for, the former favourable vote was rescinded by a majority of two to one. The movement for a public library in St. Pancras has made progress; but it is hoped that no action will be taken by the friends of the Acts there or elsewhere in London until the fortunes of the projected Bill have been decided.

"*Library Journal*," *and* "*Monthly Notes*."—The Council have carried out the instructions given to them at the Manchester Meeting of the Association by arranging with Messrs. Trübner for the publication of the *Monthly Notes*. Mr. Brace was appointed to edit the "Notes," with the assistance of an editorial committee. It will be for the Edinburgh Meeting to consider how far the experiment has been a successful one, and what should be our future course with regard to it. This is made more necessary by the suspension of the *Library Journal*, which must have been matter of great regret to the members of our Association. The Council have not received any official communication from the American Library Association, or from the conductors of the *Library Journal*, and have, therefore, no information on the subject beyond what has appeared in print. As our members will be aware, it has been arranged to continue the *Library Journal*—at all events until the end of the year, and perhaps permanently. Although the Council readily recognise the indebtedness of English librarians to the conductors of the *Library Journal* for the ability and public spirit with which it has been carried on so long, the whole question of the form and conduct of an official organ for this Association may be regarded as remaining open for full consideration at Edinburgh.

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STATEMENT OF THE PECUNIARY AFFAIRS OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM from September 20th, 1879, to September 10th, 1880.

Receipts.	£	s.	d.
Balance brought forward	64	16	5
117 Annual Subscriptions for 1880 at 10*s.* 6*d.*	61	8	6
1 Ditto ditto at 10*s.*	0	10	0
40 Subscriptions for 1879 at 10*s.* 6*d.*	21	0	0
Payments in advance for 1880–1	1	1	0
	£148	15	11

Payments.	£	s.	d.
220 copies of Report of Proceedings at Manchester	61	8	4
750 extra copies of Table II. for the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association	10	0	0
Reporter of Discussions at Manchester	5	0	0
Library Journal	1	0	0
Printing and postage of Circulars, Cards, and Reports	32	3	4
	109	11	8
Balance at Bankers', Sept. 10th, 1880 — 19 4 3			
Balance in Savings' Bank — 20 0 0			
	39	4	3
	£148	15	11

(Signed) ROBERT HARRISON, *Treasurer.*

Examined and compared with Books and Vouchers, and found to be correct,

(Signed) { A. J. FROST / T. E. WOODROW } *Auditors.*

10th September, 1880.

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LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

ANNUAL MEETING, 1880.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

President.

Rev. H. O. COXE.

Vice Presidents.

Three to be Elected.

Lord LINDSAY.
J. D. MULLINS.
J. SMALL.
H. R. TEDDER.

Council.

Twelve to be Elected.

(As only eight Members of the Council are eligible for re-election, not more than eight names are to be left in this Column.)

Prof. H. W. ACLAND.
W. E. A. AXON.
F. T. BARRETT.
G. BULLEN.
P. COWELL.
R. GARNETT.
Prof. W. S. JEVONS.
E. B. NICHOLSON.
W. H. OVERALL.
C. W. SUTTON.
C. WALFORD.
B. R. WHEATLEY.
J. B. BAILEY.
J. P. BRISCOE.
A. COTGREAVE.
A. J. FROST.
J. W. KNAPMAN.
C. MADELEY.
Prof. H. MORLEY.
H. STEVENS.
H. R. TEDDER.
W. S. W. VAUX.
C. WELCH.
W. H. K. WRIGHT.

Treasurer.

ROBERT HARRISON.

Secretaries.

E. C. THOMAS.
C. WELCH.

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COMMITTEE ON A GENERAL CATALOGUE OF ENGLISH LITERATURE.

The following Report has been rendered to the Council by the Special Committee, and will be formally presented to the Association at Edinburgh.

REPORT.

"This Committee was re-appointed by the Monthly Meeting of November 7, 1879, and has held several meetings, at which the best method of proceeding to carry the proposed scheme for a General Catalogue of English Literature into execution, has been carefully considered.

"A great difference of opinion has arisen on the very important point, whether the proposed specimen letter (referred to in our previous Report) should include only books printed in English in the United Kingdom, or all books printed in English whether here or abroad. It has not been possible, therefore, to complete the contemplated specimen for the Edinburgh Meeting, and your Committee must ask leave to consider the matter through another year.

"Meanwhile, the Committee have requested the Secretary, who has been engaged in compiling the English titles for the specimen, to lay before the meeting the conclusions which his labours on the subject have led him to form.

"August 20, 1880."

The consolidation of the *Library Journal* with the *Publishers' Weekly* ceases with the number for 7th August last. In that number Mr. Leypoldt announces that he has decided to complete the fifth volume of the *Library Journal* in its original shape, and that, should his action be productive of renewed efforts on the part of others on behalf of the *Journal*, it is still possible that the work may be successfully continued.

QUERY.

WHO is the author of "The Shortest Way to end Disputes about Religion," in two parts: Part I. published at Brussels, 1716; Part II. at Antwerp in the same year? The title-page of Part II. says that it is in answer to Lesley's "Case Stated." W. J.

ADVERTISEMENT.

MR. E. B. NICHOLSON, London Institution, Finsbury Circus, strongly recommends for Library employment Mr. EDWARD M. BORRAJO, who has been temporarily engaged under him for some months. Age 26; knows Greek, Latin, French, Spanish. Address to Mr. NICHOLSON'S care.

London: TRÜBNER & CO., Ludgate Hill.

Single Numbers, Threepence each. Annual Subscription, post free, 3s. 6d.

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

THE next Monthly Meeting of the Association will be held on Friday, November 5th, at 8 p.m., at the London Institution, Finsbury Circus, when Mr. E. B. NICHOLSON will read a paper, entitled "Buckram, a Palinode."

The Association may be congratulated on the success of the Annual Meeting of 1880. Notwithstanding the lateness of the season, and the distance which many members had to travel, there was no falling off in the attendance, and the cordial welcome which we received will long be remembered. The literary and historical associations connected with Edinburgh would in themselves have sufficed to make our visit interesting, but the liberality with which the various Institutions of the northern capital were thrown open to members greatly enhanced the pleasure, and the valuable papers on those institutions which were read at the meeting will afford an important addition to the information on library matters recorded in the proceedings of our annual meetings.

ANNUAL MEETING AT EDINBURGH.

The third annual meeting of this Association was held at Edinburgh, in the rooms of the Royal Society, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, the 5th, 6th and 7th of this month. The first day's business began at 10 a.m., after a preliminary meeting of the Council.

On the proposal of Mr. MULLINS, Vice-President, seconded by Mr. HARRISON, Treasurer, Mr. SMALL, Vice-President of the Association and Librarian of the University Library, Edinburgh, was unanimously elected to preside.

The SECRETARY read a letter from the Rev. H. O. COXE, President of the Association, expressing regret that the state of his health did not permit him to attend. Letters from Lord LINDSAY and the Baron de WATTEVILLE were also read.

Mr. R. R. BOWKER was elected an honorary member, and in accordance with a special resolution of the Council, several other gentlemen were proposed and elected.

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The CHAIRMAN then delivered a brief introductory address, in which he expressed his regret at the absence of the President, and, after thanking the Association for electing him to the office of Vice-President, gave the members a hearty welcome to Edinburgh. He then gave a sketch of the work already done by the Association, directed the attention of members to the libraries of Edinburgh which were thrown open for their inspection, and concluded with an account of the progress of the library movement in Edinburgh.

The SECRETARY read the report of the Council, and a letter from Mr. DEWEY, received since the report was drawn up. The TREASURER read the balance-sheet. (*See* pp. 67–70.)

Mr. FROST, as one of the auditors, stated that there was a charge of £37 10s. for extra copies of Table II. in the appendix to the proceedings of the meeting last year, for the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association, in respect of which the £10 in the balance-sheet had been paid. He said that at present the amount stood as paid on account, and protested against the funds of this Association being taken to provide the sinews of war for the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association.—Mr. NICHOLSON said that the copies had been ordered under the authority of the resolution of the Association at its annual meeting last year, (*see* Proceedings, p. 108), and that the sum mentioned included an item for extra costs in setting up the tables for the volume. The TREASURER explained that the expenditure was incurred in setting up the tables for the volume, which the publishers had contracted to do at a fixed price; their attention had been called to this point, and there would be no further claim on their part.* Mr. WALFORD suggested that the question should be referred to the Council. Mr. FROST concurred, and the report and balance-sheet were unanimously approved.

Mr. J. T. CLARK, Keeper of the Advocates' Library, then read a paper entitled "Notes on Early Printing in Scotland," giving an account of early printing in Scotland from its introduction by Walter Chapman and Andrew Myllar in 1507, to the year 1600; and called attention to the rarity of some of the books of which the number of impressions was known to be large.

In reply to a vote of thanks for this paper, Mr. CLARK stated that the art of stereotyping had its origin in Scotland, and was first practised by William Ged, who published an edition of Sallust in 1739; one of his plates was in the Advocates' Library, and a few copies had been printed from it for distribution among the members.

The SECRETARY then read a notice received from one of the members, concerning the Benedictine Monastery and College at Fort Augustus; the Prior of which had sent an invitation to any members of the Association who might wish to visit it after the meeting.

* A letter received subsequently, and read at the meeting, stated that the cost of the 750 copies of Table II. was about £6. The balance, therefore, of the £10 paid was for the volume itself.

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Mr. W. BLACK, of the Library of the Solicitors before the Supreme Court, then read a paper entitled "Notices of Some of the Eminent Librarians of Edinburgh;" giving an account of Thomas Ruddiman, David Hume, Dr. David Irving, Mr. Samuel Halkett and Mr. David Laing. The Chairman mentioned that Mr. Halkett's Dictionary of anonymous and pseudonymous works was continued by Mr. Laing, on whose death the work came to a stand; but it was now again in progress, and a proof was on the table.

The report on Cataloguing Rules was then read, and on the proposal of the SECRETARY, seconded by Mr. NICHOLSON, it was resolved to refer them to a committee to be nominated at the afternoon sitting.

Mr. C. WELCH gave notice of a motion for the next morning sitting, and the meeting adjourned at half-past twelve.

During the interval members visited the Royal College of Physicians in Queen Street.

Business was resumed at a quarter-past one, when a paper on the "Free Libraries of Scotland," by Mr. MASON, Assistant-Librarian, Mitchell Library, Glasgow, was read by the Secretary, in the absence of the writer.

Mr. J. MACLAUCHLAN, Librarian of the Free Library and Museum, Dundee, then read a paper on the subject: "How the Free Library System may be economically carried out in Counties;" and a discussion on both papers followed, in which practical suggestions were made as to the methods advocated in the papers and also as to founding small local libraries and perambulating libraries, such as exist in some parts of Wales.

Mr. LOMAX, Librarian of the Free Library and Museum, Brighton, next read a paper "On the Classification of History."

After the discussion of this paper, Professor DICKSON, of Glasgow University, gave an account of a subject catalogue of the University Library now in progress and exhibited the volume relating to bibliography. The Committee on Cataloguing Rules was then nominated and the meeting adjourned.

The members then proceeded to the Advocates' Library, where they were received by the Dean of Faculty and Mr. Blair, advocate, one of the curators. Mr. CLARK gave a short account of the history of the library. They next visited the Signet Library, where Mr. Cook, W. S., and Mr. Law, librarian, received them, and gave some particulars as to the formation of the library, which is especially rich in county histories. A visit was afterwards made to the New College Library, where, in the absence of Principal Rainy, the members were received by Professor Duns, who said that this was the youngest library they would be called upon to visit; it began in 1843, and now possessed between 30,000 and 40,000 volumes, comprising patristic theology, theological history, and systematic theology.

In the evening the members of the Association, with a number of the leading citizens, were entertained at dinner by the Local Committee, in the Waterloo Hotel, the number of guests being

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about 110. Lord Provost Boyd occupied the chair; on his right were Mr. Mullins, Birmingham Free Library, Lord Curriehill, Mr. Small, Edinburgh University Library, Mr. Adam Black, publisher, Edinburgh, Mr. Harrison, treasurer of the Association, and Professor Mackay, Edinburgh University; on the left of the chairman were Principal Sir Alexander Grant, the Rev. Dr. Lees, the Rev. W. D. Macray, Mr. Skinner, town-clerk, Mr. Bullen of the British Museum, and Mr. Brodie, R.S.A. The croupiers were Mr. Blair, advocate, and Treasurer Harrison. After the usual loyal toasts had been duly honoured:—

The CHAIRMAN proposed the toast of the evening—"The Library Association of the United Kingdom." He first gave the Association a cordial welcome to Edinburgh, and said that it had been well arranged that the Association should pay an early visit to this city, because it not only possessed valuable libraries, one of which was entitled to a copy of every book published in the United Kingdom, but it had a great literary history, and at the present time the printing and publishing trade it carried on was larger—London alone excepted—than in any other town in the kingdom. At the meetings of the Association which had already taken place, every point of library economy had received more or less attention, and there had also been a thorough ventilation of the question of printing the catalogue of the British Museum; which had resulted in an arrangement to print a catalogue of the English books in that enormous collection from the beginning of the art of printing down to the year 1640. Various schemes had been proposed for the publication of a general catalogue of English literature, which were still under consideration. Perhaps the most important object of the Association was the extension of the adoption and working of the Free Libraries Act; and the Metropolitan Free Libraries Committee had been actively engaged in promoting the adoption of the Act in London. Another, and not less important object was to create as high a professional standard among librarians as possible, and to initiate a thorough criticism of the best methods in every branch of librarianship. He was sure that all wished continued prosperity to the Association, and that they would have much pleasure in drinking this toast.

The toast was enthusiastically responded to.

Mr. MULLINS, in reply to the toast, thanked the Lord Provost and the gentlemen of the Local Committee for the very hearty and generous reception the Association had received. One might have thought, and some of them had some fears, that, coming as they did after the meetings of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, the Church Congress, and the now imminent Social Science Congress, human endurance might be tried too much, and they might be voted one too many. But they felt they had a right to live and a work to do. They had a relation to the first-named association—they were scientific. There was science in producing from disorder and chaos method and beauty, and that was one of the special objects of the Library Association. There had

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been hidden away in country-houses, cathedrals, and churches, libraries of valuable books; and already the action of the Association they represented had resulted in awakening some of the sleepy custodians of these treasures, with the effect that they were brought to light and usefulness. It was not a slight matter that they had shaken off the cobwebs from the libraries not only of this country but of France and Germany.

Mr. HARRISON, London Library, then gave "The Literary Institutions and Libraries of Edinburgh."

Sir ALEX. GRANT, in reply, referring to the institutions of the city, said that most of them had sprung up since the Reformation. The University was a child of the Reformation. It had begun like a grain of mustard-seed, but now it was the largest university in the United Kingdom—larger than Oxford, and, he believed, larger than Cambridge. It now numbered about 3,000 students.

Professor MACKAY then gave "The Printing and Publishing Trade of Edinburgh," which was replied to by Mr. ADAM BLACK.

Lord CURRIEHILL proposed "The Chairman;" and the proceedings terminated with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

SECOND DAY.

On the second day, Wednesday, 6th October, the Committee on Cataloguing Rules met at 9 a.m., and the business of the meeting was resumed at 10 a.m.; when Mr. J. D. MULLINS, Librarian of the Free Library, Birmingham, read a paper on "The Librarian and his Work." An interesting discussion followed; after which Mr. HARRISON, Treasurer, moved on behalf of Mr. TEDDER, whose unavoidable absence called forth many expressions of regret: "That it is desirable that the Council of this Association should consider how library assistants may best be aided in their training in the general principles of their profession."

This proposal was carried after a long discussion, in which several practical suggestions were made as to apprenticeship, hours of work and opportunities for study, and also as to the drawing up of a manual of the librarian's duties.

Mr. SMALL at this stage requiring to leave, Mr. MULLINS took the chair for the remainder of the sitting.

Mr. NICHOLSON then moved: "That this Association is in favour of the general principle of opening public libraries, museums, and other galleries for some part at least of every Sunday; though particular local circumstances may sometimes render the present application of this principle useless or undesirable."

The motion was formally seconded by Mr. W. E. A. AXON.

Mr. C. WELCH, in accordance with a notice given the previous day, moved:—"That the meeting do pass on to the consideration of the next paper."

This was seconded by the Rev. W. D. MACRAY, and on a division it was decided, by a majority of 38 against 8, to pass on to the next business.

Mr. JAMES MARSHALL, Assistant-Librarian in the Advocates'

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Library, then read a paper on "An Improved System of Press and Shelf Notation." The meeting adjourned at half-past twelve.

On resuming at 1.15 p.m., a paper was read on "Assyrian Libraries," by Mr. LEONARD WHEATLEY; and another on "The great libraries of Scandinavia," by Mr. GILBERT GOUDIE. An account of the "Library of the Royal Society" was given by Mr. JAMES GORDON, Librarian. Mr. J. SMALL, Librarian of the University Library, then read a paper entitled "Notes on the History of the Edinburgh University Library." The discussion on these papers brought the afternoon's sitting to a close, and the members visited the University Library, where they were shown the collection of books formerly belonging to Drummond of Hawthornden; the MSS. collection of the late Dr. Laing, and other rarities. Visits were also made to the Library of the Philosophical Institution, and the Select Subscription Library.

THIRD DAY.

At 9 a.m. on Thursday, 7th October, the Committee on Cataloguing Rules met, and at 10 a.m. the business of the meeting was resumed, when letters were read from Messrs. Justin Winsor, C. A. Cutter, and S. S. Green. Mr. BOWKER then gave an account of the state of affairs with regard to the *Library Journal*, and declared his belief that in five years such a Journal would be possible, and that unless something were done before that time he would start it then. The SECRETARY thought that a *Library Journal* was possible without waiting five years, and gave notice of a motion on the subject.

Mr. WALFORD then read a paper on "A Proposal for Applying a System of Clearing to Duplicate Volumes in Public and Private Libraries." After the discussion of this paper, Mr. R. A. MACFIE read a paper on "Copyright in its Relation to the Supply of Books for Libraries and the Public," on which a short discussion followed.

The Committee then brought up the Cataloguing Rules, as revised by them, and the meeting proceeded to take them into consideration. This discussion was continued until 1 p.m., when the meeting adjourned. On resuming at 1.15 p.m. the discussion was continued as far as Rule 34 (*see* p. 61), when the meeting proceeded to the election of officers, and the voting papers were distributed; Messrs. P. COWELL and A. J. FROST being nominated scrutineers. The name of Mr. TEDDER for Vice-President, and of two other gentlemen for the Council were withdrawn at their request with the consent of the persons nominating them. The scrutineers then collected the voting papers and retired to count the votes.

On the proposal of Mr. WALFORD, Cambridge was selected as the place of meeting for next year.

Mr. WALFORD moved:—"That the thanks of the Association be given to Mr. Tedder for the great services he has rendered as one of the secretaries from the foundation of the Association, and that this be specially communicated to Mr. Tedder." The motion was seconded by Mr. COURTNEY, and unanimously adopted.

Mr. BULLEN proposed, and Dr. SELIGMANN seconded, a vote of

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thanks to the local Secretaries, Messrs. T. G. Law and W. Black, and to the Local Committee for their exertions in rendering the visit of the Association so agreeable as it had been. This motion being put by Mr. HARRISON was carried by acclamation, and Messrs. T. G. LAW and W. BLACK briefly acknowledged the vote; Messrs. J. SMALL and J. T. CLARK replied on behalf of the Local Committee.

The Rev. J. C. HUDSON proposed, and Mr. C. WELCH seconded, a vote of thanks to the Directors of the Philosophical Institution, who had allowed members the use of their Library and Reading Rooms during their stay.

Mr. TONKS moved, and Mr. WRIGHT seconded, a vote of thanks to the Royal Society for allowing the Association the use of their rooms for the meeting.

Mr. TIMMINS proposed, and Mr. HAGGERSTON seconded, a vote of thanks to Messrs. W. and R. Chambers, Messrs. W. and A. K. Johnston, and Messrs. Nelson and Sons, who had invited members to visit their printing works.

Mr J. GORDON responded on behalf of the Royal Society.

Mr. C. WELCH proposed, and Mr. J. W. KNAPMAN seconded, a vote of thanks to the officers of the Association for their services during the past year. Mr. HARRISON, Treasurer, responded on behalf of the officers.

The Scrutineers then gave in their report, and the Chairman announced the names of the officers for the next year to be as follows: — President: Rev. H. O. Coxe. Vice-Presidents: Lord Lindsay, J. Small, J. D. Mullins. Council: J. B. Bailey, F. T. Barrett, G. Bullen, P. Cowell, A. J. Frost, R. Garnett, E. B. Nicholson, W. H. Overall, H. Stevens, H. R. Tedder, C. Walford, B. R. Wheatley. Treasurer: Robert Harrison. Secretaries: E. C. Thomas, C. Welch.

The Committee on Indicators then brought up their report, which was adopted on the proposal of Mr. TIMMINS, seconded by Mr. WAITE.

Mr. A. J. FROST moved: "That the date of future annual meetings be fixed earlier than the month of October." Mr. BONE seconded the motion, which was carried after some discussion, the exact date being left for the Council to decide. The opinion of the meeting was taken as to the most convenient month for the meeting; when August was declared most suitable, in preference to July, September or October.

Mr. CREDLAND then read the report of the Statistical Committee. Mr. TONKS proposed that the matter of statistics should be referred to the Council; this was seconded by Mr. NICHOLSON, and carried.

Mr. NICHOLSON moved: "That it be an instruction to the Council to send to all bookbinders in the Bookbinders' Trade Directory a circular letter, containing such enquiries as it may be desirable to make, and inviting answers, suggestions, and scales of prices. And that the results be laid before the Association at its next yearly meeting, together with such samples of binding as the

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Council may think fit to obtain." This was seconded by Mr. WALFORD, and carried without discussion.

The report of the Committee as to the proposed Catalogue of English Literature, was then read by the SECRETARY, and adopted after a short discussion.

With regard to the *Library Journal*, it was moved by the SECRETARY, and seconded by Mr. WALFORD, that Mr. Bowker be requested to confer with the Council on the subject.

The consideration of the Cataloguing Rules was then resumed; but the hour being late, it was resolved to postpone the further consideration until the next annual meeting, and accordingly the meeting dissolved.

The following is a list of the names of members present at the annual meeting: names of members elected at the meeting are distinguished by an asterisk. It is requested that notice of any errors or omissions should be sent to the Secretaries:—

Prof. H. W. Acland (Oxford); *Robert Anderson, *Prof. Archer (Edinburgh); Wm. Archer (Dublin); W. E. A. Axon (Manchester); F. T. Barrett (Glasgow); A. J. Birch (New Swindon); *W. Black (Edinburgh); F. Boase, G. C. Boase, J. W. Bone (London); *R. R. Bowker (U. S. A.); *Lord Provost Boyd (Edinburgh); Wm. Brace (London); *W. H. Braithwaite (Trinidad); J. P. Briscoe (Nottingham); *— Bryce, *Alex. Buchan, *T. R. Buchanan (Edinburgh); Geo. Bullen (London); *W. Carfrae, *Richard Cameron, J. T. Clark, *T. Clark (Edinburgh): A. Cotgreave (Wednesbury); W. P. Courtney (London); P. Cowell (Liverpool); *W. R. Credland (Manchester); D. Dickinson (West Bromwich); *W. Traquair Dickson (Edinburgh); W. R. Douthwaite (London); *Andr. Elliott, *J. R. Findlay (Edinburgh); H. T. Folkard (Wigan); A. J Frost (London); *Edm. Goldsmid, *Jas. Gordon, *G. Goudie (Edinburgh); D B. Grant (Leamington); *R. Grant, *A. Greig (Edinburgh); W. J. Haggerston (Newcastle); R. Harrison (London); *Thos. Heath (Derby); *— Henderson, *John Henry (Edinburgh); Rev. J. C. Hudson (Horncastle); R. Hudson (Lapworth); *W. W. Hunter (Edinburgh); John Ingram (Glasgow); L. Inkster (South Shields); J. W. Knapman (London); *Rev. S. Kennedy, *T. G. Law (Edinburgh); B. Lomax (Brighton); T. J. W. MacAlister (Leeds); *R. A. Maefie, *Rev. Prof. Macgregor, *Prof. Mackay, *Rev. W. MacKellar, *Duncan Maclachlan, *John Maclaren (Edinburgh); John Maclauchlan (Dundee); Rev. W. D. Macray (Oxford); *G. McWhea (Edinburgh); F. Madan (Oxford); *A. Main, *Jas. Marshall, *Rev. D. W. Morris (Edinburgh); J. D. Mullins (Birmingham); E. Neville (Over Darwen); E. B. Nicholson (London); *Wm. Paterson (Edinburgh); John Plant (Salford); *Ralph Richardson (Edinburgh); *Bailie Robertson (Dundee); C. E. Scarse (Birmingham); L. Seligmann (Berlin); *Prof. W. G. Sellar, J. Small, *Jas. Smith, *D. W. Smith, *T. G. Stevenson, *Andr. Taylor (Edinburgh); E. C. Thomas (London); S. Timmins, Edm. Tonks (Birmingham); J. K. Waite (Bolton); A. Wakefield (Liverpool); W. C. Walcott (River Gambia); Cornelius Walford (London); *D. Watson (Hawick); Charles Welch (London); Leonard Wheatley (Edinburgh); *Councillor Wilson (Glasgow); W. H. K. Wright (Plymouth).

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

Library Association

of the United Kingdom.

AT the meeting on Friday, December 6, a paper will be read by Mr. ERNEST C. THOMAS, and Mr. H. B. WHEATLEY, Hon. Sec. of the Index Society, on "A Proposed Subject-Index to Bibliologies and Bibliographies."

We shall be glad to receive from our readers, statistics and other information relating to the libraries with which they are connected, and also as to other matters that they may consider likely to interest the members of the Association. Communications may be addressed to either of the Secretaries, Mr. E. C. THOMAS, 13, South Square, Gray's Inn, W.C., and Mr. C. WELCH, Corporation Library, Guildhall, E.C., or to the Editor, care of Messrs. TRUBNER & Co., Ludgate Hill, E.C.

The Secretaries will be glad to receive offers of papers to be read at the Monthly Meetings of the Association.

NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING.

THE first Monthly Meeting of the fourth year of the Association was held at the London Institution on Friday, November 5, 1880; Mr. R. HARRISON, Treasurer, in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Chairman called on Mr. E. B. NICHOLSON to read his paper entitled

THE USE OF BUCKRAM, LINOLEUM, AND CRETONNE FOR BINDING.

Mr. NICHOLSON said: The result of my advocacy of buckram as a binding-material at the Conference of Librarians in 1877, has been to bring it into great use, both in this country and in America. Since then I have been driven almost to abandon its use, and I wish to make known the reasons which have led me to do so—adding to those reasons a few remarks on one or two other new materials.

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The virtues which in 1877 I claimed for buckram were durability, good looks, and cheapness. As regards its durability, I am still convinced that, if anyone were to bind Chrysoloras's Greek Grammar in buckram, and were able to see it again in five hundred years' time, he would find the material unworn; because, being a linen, it is not disintegrated by any amount of heated air, and because Chrysoloras's Greek Grammar is not a book which is likely to suffer from excessive use. But, if the same person were to bind "Roland Yorke" in buckram, were to place it in a popular lending-library, and were to see it again, not in five hundred years, but in five hundred days, he would very probably find that the corners and the joints of the back were wearing to rags—a fact of which I was unaware in 1877 simply because I had bound no popular books in that material. As regards the good looks of buckram, I am sorry to say that the caution which I then gave against red and green, on account of their tendency to fade, should have been extended to black, blue, purple, and yellow; and that not only all of these, but also brown and slate, lose their glaze altogether, and take stains and spots as badly as the least fast of bookbinders' muslins. Lastly, as regards cheapness, I now find that it is possible to get any book, up to demy quarto, bound as cheap in half-morocco as in buckram, while the difference for demy folios is no more than threepence.

I do not wish for a moment to deny that an atlas folio would cost much less to bind in buckram than in half-morocco, that if it were bound in slate or brown it would not perceptibly fade, and that, if it were hardly ever used, it would keep its glaze, and be a permanently respectable-looking volume. Nor do I see why buckram should not be better glazed, better dyed, and made stouter and cheaper. All I say is, that, until these things come about, it is very far from an ideal material for binding moderate-sized books in common use.

It was suggested to me a few months ago, by one of our binders, that linoleum might be made of a thickness suitable for binding; and in September last one of the members of the London Institution called my attention to a prospectus of the linoleum called "lincrusta-Walton," or "muralis," in which it was suggested as a binding-material. I found, on enquiry at a London agent's, that "muralis" was asserted to be damp-proof, heat-proof, acid-proof, and so little liable to fade or rub that it might be cleaned with a scrubbing-brush. Here, I thought, is the promise of an absolutely perfect material, and, on finding that it was made thin enough, I at once had twenty volumes bound in it, some in plain, some in figured muralis, some full-bound, some half-bound. Specimens of these I now show; and I must ask you, in criticising their appearance, to bear in mind the fact that the material has never been manufactured with a view to binding. The plain muralis has only been made in its self-colour, instead of being dyed to such a colour as is usual in bookcovers. The figured is made in patterns suitable for wall-decoration, and the particular pattern which I have chosen, because it was the cheapest, is also only made at present in the

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self-colour of the material. Moreover, had it been intended for binding, the pattern should have been in low instead of high relief, to avoid rubbing the binding of the books next to it. Again, in consequence of the pattern being in high relief, the binders have sometimes had to put the lettering-piece much lower down than is at all usual. And, lastly, these books were bound in a great hurry, so as to enable me to take them, if I thought fit, to the meeting at Edinburgh. If you imagine them carefully bound in brown or chocolate muralis, with sunk patterns, and the lettering-piece consequently in its right place, you will, I think, admit that their appearance would be decidedly good.

But muralis will not do as a binding-material. It is so soft that you can pick it to pieces with the greatest ease; and this copy of Liddell and Scott, which has not been in use for three weeks, is, you will see, already cracked down the joints between back and sides. A second fault is, that the unevenness of the material prevents gilding on it, and makes lettering-pieces necessary.

Nevertheless, these experiments make it likely that a linoleum can be made which will be in every way suitable for binding—for the main defect of muralis, its extreme softness, is one in which ordinary linoleum does not share. Whether such a linoleum will be as cheap as durable remains to be seen. The price of full-binding an ordinary octavo in plain muralis is 2*s.* 8*d.*; the price of full-binding Liddell and Scott in figured muralis is 3*s.* 9*d.*

One other new material may be mentioned. Mr. Bentley has taken to binding his three-volume novels in crétonnes, exactly the same material as is used for covering drawing-room chairs. Some of the patterns are very pretty, but of course they soil and fade, while the material clearly would not stand much rubbing. At first Mr. Bentley lettered the crétonne itself, but as it did not take gilt well, or show it well, he now sews a letter-piece on the back.

In a paper of mine which will be printed in the Transactions of the Edinburgh meeting are some remarks on the durability of the different kinds of leather in common use for binding-purposes. I will not duplicate those remarks in the present paper, further than to say that for the combination of durability, good looks, and reasonable cheapness, no material that I know equals half-morocco, unless (as I think possible) time shows equal durability in half-persian. As for russia, calf, and common roan, as they are at present prepared, it were much to be desired, in the interests of libraries, that their use for binding purposes were made a penal offence. No librarian with any knowledge of these leathers, and any regard for the future of his library, will ever think of using them on books which are expected to descend to a new generation.

Discussion.—Mr. Walford said that he had tried several experiments, and had come to the conclusion that Manilla paper sides with basil leather backs was about the best kind of binding for ordinary purposes, and much cheaper than ordinary bindings. As to calf, he thought that the acids used in bleaching were a principal

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cause of its decay. He thought highly of chintz, but feared that the tendency to cheapness would induce the employment of a bad material.—Mr. FROST had found some old calf bindings much improved by a coating of paste, which they absorbed very freely.—Mr. WELCH regretted that publishers did not sew their books more strongly; many new books with handsome covers soon came to pieces, and had to be rebound long before the cover had suffered any damage.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON INDICATORS.

THIS Committee, consisting of Messrs. ELLIOT, MULLINS, TIMMINS, TONKS, and WRIGHT, issued a series of inquiries to the Free Public Libraries using indicators, and having received replies to the same, presented the following Report, which was adopted at the last Annual Meeting (*see* p. 79):—

REPORT.

The Committee, recognising that the indicator effects a saving of time of both the borrower and the library staff, consider it a useful addition to a lending library.

It appears from the subjoined analysis that some of the libraries make the indicator the sole record of issues, and do not supplement it by any other entry. The Committee are of opinion that as the record afforded by the indicator may be seriously affected by the carelessness or mischief of those who have access to it, it is indispensible, whatever form may be used, that an additional record be kept in a book, or on a series of cards, such as is used in some libraries. If this additional entry be made, it is less necessary to use complicated indicators, and they think the simplest form will be found to be the best. They avoid specifying any particular form, as the merits of each to a certain extent depend on circumstances, and generally the librarian who has to use the indicator can judge which form will best suit his purpose.

ANALYSIS OF ANSWERS TO CIRCULAR OF INQUIRIES.

1. Do you use an indicator to inform your borrowers what books are available for issue, viz., "in" or "out"?
2. What kind of indicator?
3. Whose invention?

   Six libraries out of fourteen use Elliott's indicator, Bristol, Leeds, Newcastle, South Shields, Wednesbury, and Wolverhampton; at Wednesbury, one on Elliott's principle with an additional invention by the librarian.
4. Do you make your indicator also a record of your issue, or do you register the issues in a book?

   At nine libraries, Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Derby, Dundee, Manchester, Plymouth, South Shields, West Bromwich, the issues are registered in a book or on a register card.

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At five, Leicester, Leeds, Sheffield, Wednesbury, and Wolverhampton, the indicator is the only record of issue.

5. Do you find that the borrower's card (or the other mode of showing that the book is out) sometimes gets put into the wrong place?

Five libraries, Birmingham, Cardiff, Leicester, Wednesbury, and West Bromwich, find that the borrower's card gets frequently put into the wrong place. Eight libraries, Bristol, Derby, Dundee, Leeds, Newcastle, Plymouth, Sheffield, and South Shields, find that this is rarely the case.

6. If so, what is the average number of mistakes per week, and what means are taken to rectify them?

The average numbers of those misplacements vary from twelve a-day to one a-week, and all agree that searching the indicator will soon enable them to discover them. One library, West Bromwich, keeps no record of mistakes.

7. When the borrower returns his book and wants his card that cannot be found, what do you do?

In three libraries, Birmingham, Plymouth, and West Bromwich, the borrower keeps his own card. Nearly all give duplicate cards in case of misplacement.

8. If the card in the indicator is the only record of the issue, how can you write for books overdue, except by going over the whole of the cards?

9. What is your average issue per day?

The average daily issue of the fourteen libraries is 580.

10. Do you make any entry in the book itself when issued?

Seven libraries, Birmingham, Bristol, Manchester, Newcastle, Plymouth, South Shields, and West Bromwich, make entries in the book itself when issued.

11. If not, how is the question of fine settled, and how is a disputed fine managed?

One library, Manchester, does not fine, but only charges for damage. Four libraries, Cardiff, Leicester, Sheffield, and Wolverhampton, find that fines are very rarely disputed.

12. What advantage in point of time has the entry in the borrower's card over a continuous entry in a book on the desk?

Seven libraries, Derby, Dundee, Leicester, Newcastle, Sheffield, Wednesbury, and Wolverhampton, find a saving of nearly half the time by the entry on the borrower's card.

13. Is it not a disadvantage to have your sole record of issue scattered over some thousand spaces in the indicator?

Six libraries, Derby, Dundee, Newcastle, Plymouth, Sheffield, and Wednesbury, find it no disadvantage to have their sole record of issue scattered over the indicator.

14. Do you not find in practice many wrong entries of numbers, dates, &c., on the borrowers' cards?

In nine libraries, Bristol, Derby, Dundee, Leeds, Leicester, Sheffield, South Shields, Wednesbury, and Wolverhampton,

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they do not find many wrong entries on the borrowers' cards.

15. If you issue a work in two or three volumes, and the borrower's card can only indicate one out, how about the other two, especially if the borrower returns Vol. 1 and not Vol. 2 or 3?

In eleven libraries, Bristol, Cardiff, Derby, Dundee, Leeds, Leicester, Plymouth, Sheffield, South Shields, Wednesbury, and Wolverhampton, two and three-volume works are only issued together and taken back together, not separately.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES.

At the last annual meeting a resolution was passed calling the attention of the Council to rule 22 of the constitution of this Association, and requesting them to employ means for carrying it into effect.

Rule 22.—In any district containing six members of the Association, a local committee may be formed, with a corresponding secretary. Resolutions and recommendations forwarded by local committees to the Secretaries of the Association shall be laid before its next monthly meeting.

The Council, having considered the subject, have requested the under-named members to act as corresponding secretaries, and have assigned the following districts to them, subject to their consent to undertake the office.

BRIGHTON.—B. Lomax, Librarian, Free Library and Museum, Brighton.

BIRMINGHAM.—C. E. Scarse, Librarian, Birmingham Library, Union Street, Birmingham.

CAMBRIDGE.—Rev. Robert Sinker, Librarian, Trinity College, Cambridge.

DUNDEE.—J. Maclauchlan, Librarian, Free Library and Museum, Dundee.

DURHAM.—Rev. J. T. Fowler, Librarian, University Library, Durham.

EDINBURGH.—T. G. Law, Librarian, Signet Library, Edinburgh.

EXETER.—Rev. H. E. Reynolds, Librarian, Cathedral Library, Exeter.

GLASGOW.—F. T. Barrett, Librarian, Mitchell Library, Glasgow.

LEEDS.—T. J. W. MacAlister, Librarian, Leeds.

LINCOLNSHIRE.—Rev. J. C. Hudson, Thornton Vicarage, Horncastle.

LIVERPOOL.—P. Cowell, Librarian, Free Public Library, Liverpool.

MANCHESTER.—J. Plant, Librarian, Royal Museum and Libraries, Peel Park, Salford.

NEWCASTLE.—W. J. Haggerston, Librarian, Public Libraries, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

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NOTTINGHAM.—J. P. Briscoe, Librarian, Free ublic Libraries, Nottingham.
OXFORD.—F. Madan, Librarian, Brasenose College, Oxford.
PLYMOUTH.—W. H. K. Wright, Librarian, Free Library, Plymouth.
SOUTHAMPTON.—T. W. Shore, Hartley Institution, Southampton.
STAFFORD.—T. J. De'Mazzinghi, Librarian, William Salt Library, Stafford.
WIGAN.—H. T. Folkard, Librarian, Free Public Library, Wigan.
YORK.—W. M. Morrell, City and County Bank, York.

LIBRARY NOTES.

RONALDS LIBRARY.—This library, which is now in the possession of the Society of Telegraph Engineers, was officially opened on Wednesday, the 10th inst., by the President of the Society, Mr. W. H. Preece, who received the members and a distinguished company of visitors at the rooms of the Society, 4, Broad Sanctuary, Westminster. Mr. Frost, the librarian, exhibited a collection of curious books relating to electricity, magnetism, navigation, &c. A number of interesting letters, autographs, and portraits of eminent electricians were also shown, and the American rapid telegraph was exhibited in action.

DONCASTER.—Mr. Francis H. Darby died at Kirkstall Leas on Saturday, October 23, 1880. Mr. Darby was formerly Librarian of one of the branch libraries at Leeds, and was appointed Librarian of the Doncaster Borough Free Library in September, 1878. During his stay in Doncaster he made many friends by his kind and genial manner. His prospects were very promising, when consumption, which had manifested itself for some time, obliged him to resign his post, and it is with great regret that we chronicle his death at the early age of twenty-nine.

EDINBURGH.—The Meeting of the Library Association at Edinburgh appears to have given a fresh impetus to the Free Library movement in that city. At the recent municipal elections the question was brought up at the ward meetings, and the Edinburgh Trades' Council and other bodies are about to present a requisition to the Lord Provost to convene a public meeting on the subject.

ST. IVES, CORNWALL.—A movement has been begun for the formation of a Free Library at St. Ives, Cornwall. A public meeting was held, at which it was decided not to levy a rate, but to raise a voluntary subscription. The Hon. Secretary of the Committee is Mr. W. Kernick, jun., Market Place, St. Ives, Cornwall.

WEDNESBURY.—Mr. Frederick Wagstaff has been appointed to the Librarianship of the Wednesbury Free Library, in succession to Mr. Cotgreave.

WORCESTER.—Mr. George Reece, for many years Curator of the

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Worcestershire Natural History Society's Museum, has been appointed Curator under the new management, the Museum having become the property of the Committee of the Worcester Public Library. Mr. Reece will also be Sub-Librarian.

TASMANIA.—The Tasmanian Public Library in the Town Hall, Hobart Town, is open on Christmas Day, Good Friday, and every Sunday, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m; every other day, including public holidays, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. (on Saturday, 8 p.m.). The reading-room attached to the library is supplied with the chief English newspapers and periodicals as well as Colonial papers. The official statistics of Tasmania for 1879 give the expenditure for that year at £531 2*s.* 5*d.*; the number of volumes at the end of the year, not including bound magazines, 8,208; and the number of visitors during the year, 29,537.

A curious collection was made by the late Mr. Edwin Edwards, the painter, of books written by foreigners about England and Englishmen. They number between three and four hundred volumes, and may be acquired by any like-minded collector, or by any library, for a moderate sum, the present proprietor being mainly desirous of seeing them in safe guardianship as a collection. Particulars may be obtained of Mr. HARRISON, London Library, St. James's Square, S.W.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne Public Libraries. Catalogue of the Books in the Central Lending Department. Compiled by W. John Haggerston, Chief Librarian, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1880. 8vo, pp. viii., 330. Price One Shilling.

A short-title dictionary catalogue of a general library of about 20,000 volumes. Authors and subjects are arranged in one alphabet, with abundant cross-references. The number of volumes, size, and imprint are not noted. A new and important feature is that the contents of volumes and periodicals are very fully given, and references to articles in magazines and reviews are grouped under the same head with the references to works on the same subjects. The number of references is about 80,000, and the press mark is added to each, so that a book can be called for from any reference.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne Public Libraries. Catalogue of the Books in the Juvenile Lending Department. Compiled by W. John Haggerston, Chief Librarian, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1880. 8vo, pp. viii., 24. Price Twopence.

Containing about 2,000 entries on the same plan as the larger catalogue.

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MONTHLY NOTES

OF THE

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of the United Kingdom.

At the meeting on Friday, January 7, 1881, a paper will be read by Mr. W. R. Douthwaite, Librarian of Gray's Inn: "Notes on the Gray's Inn Library."

The meetings of the Committee of the whole Association on Cataloguing Rules, will re-commence at the London Institution on Friday, the 17th inst., at 8 p.m., and will be continued on the third Friday, in each month at 7 p.m.

The question of Statistics was referred to the Council by the last annual meeting. At a recent meeting of the Council it was resolved to re-appoint the Statistical Committee, consisting of Messrs. W. E. A. Axon, C. W. Sutton, and G. L. Campbell, with a view to the preparation of a further report upon Free Public Libraries. Members of the Association, and others who may possess information which will assist the Committee, are requested to communicate with Mr. C. W. Sutton, Public Free Libraries, Manchester.

DECEMBER MONTHLY MEETING.

The second Monthly Meeting of the fourth year of the Association was held at the London Institution on Friday, December 3, 1880, at 8 p.m., Mr. B. R. Wheatley in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. H. J. Adams was elected a member of the Association. The Chairman then called on Mr. E. C. Thomas to read a paper written by him and Mr. H. B. Wheatley, on

A Proposed Subject-Index to Bibliologies and Bibliographies.

Mr. Thomas said: Of the two subjects specified in the constitution of our Association that of library administration has certainly received the lion's share of attention. Nor is that in any way

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unfitting. Yet the other object, "the promotion of bibliographical research," has received so little, that it may not unfairly be considered a matter of some reproach to us. It seems at least time that an effort should be made to accomplish some good and definite work in this direction. It has seemed to the present writers that a not unsuitable subject and occasion present themselves in a scheme which in itself is desirable, and which in the mode of its accomplishment may afford a tangible evidence of the sympathy existing between the two Societies represented here this evening—the Index Society and the Library Association. As to the manner of carrying out the proposal, however, we will say something further on. First, as to the proposal itself.

A good deal more has been done even in England for bibliography and bibliology than might be supposed by those who have not studied the subject carefully. But it has been done sporadically and unsystematically; and we have no great work like Petzholdt's "Bibliotheca Bibliographica," collecting together the whole literature of the subject and presenting it at one view. The lists given in such books as Power's "Handybook about Books" are very meagre and unsatisfactory; and even Sabin's "Bibliography of Bibliography," despite its arrogant and pretentious tone, is very inadequate, as must appear from the mere numbers of the titles it contains, only 997 in all, including 628 English titles. And many even of these are in no proper sense of the word either bibliographies or bibliologies. A most glaring defect in these books, moreover, is the absence of an index of subjects. And again none of them attempts to deal with anything but substantive works, or to embrace the fugitive bibliographies scattered through bibliographical and other periodicals, or appended to many important treatises.

Nor must it be said that we are proposing to do over again what is already done and so well done in Petzholdt. Indeed there are many librarians to whom the consultation of a bibliographical work in German is at least a matter of irksomeness, if not of difficulty. It may even be that there are some librarians here and there who have never consulted Petzholdt at all. Moreover, Petzholdt's book is not as complete for English bibliography as it might be made, while very much has been done here and in America during the fourteen years which have passed since the publication of his book.

After the subject of this paper was announced we learned from Mr. Garnett that something of the work proposed to be done by our Subject-Index had been already undertaken by the British Museum. As is well known, the chief substantive bibliographies in the possession of the Museum have been for some time collected in special presses in the Reading Room. It will be news, however, to most here present that a separate hand-list of these books has been prepared under the direction of Mr. Porter, to whose kindness we are indebted for an inspection of the proof sheets which are now being printed. To these will be added an Index of Subjects. But the

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books included in this list will only be those for which room can be found in the Reading Room, and it will not include references to those scattered bibliographies of which we have spoken. Without having paid special attention to the subject, it is difficult to realise how much bibliological and bibliographical material exists in a scattered form. Everyone knows Mr. Olphar Hamst's interesting "Handbook of Fictitious Names," but how many are there who remember the useful bibliographies which that zealous bibliographer has published elsewhere. His "Bibliographical List of Lord Brougham's Publications" is appended to the collected edition of Brougham's writings, and has been privately reprinted. But his no less interesting "List of the Works of and upon Sir William Blackstone" lurks, by many unsuspected, in two volumes of Notes and Queries (4 S. i. and ii. 1868). Again, we know that our friend Mr. Cutter devotes special attention to diabolical literature: we have all heard, probably, of the "Bibliotheca Diabolica," published at New York in 1874; but how many of us could recall at the moment that there are some contributions to the bibliography of this subject in Notes and Queries (3 S. iv. 246, 328, 478). These are but one or two instances out of hundreds.

To give some idea of the relation the proposed Index would bear to existing sources of similar information, as well as to the forthcoming Museum Hand-List, let us take a single subject, that of Angling, which has long had special attention paid to its bibliography. In the proof sheets shown to us by Mr. Porter there are two titles on the bibliography of angling, one of which is indeed perhaps the best—that of D. Mulder Bosgoed, published at Haarlem in 1874. Sabin gives three titles of books on the subject; Petzholdt has also three; amongst our own materials are at least ten titles, including the latest contribution to the subject, an essay by Mr. Charles Estcourt in a volume published at Manchester this year under the title of "Anglers' Evenings," to which he has appended "A Supplementary List of Works relating to Angling or Fish published up to September, 1879." And these slips do not include, of course, the new edition of Westwood now in active preparation, and which will, we suppose, supersede the others. But though the practical value of these earlier books is thus being constantly lessened as they are supplanted by later ones, there will always remain the interest attaching to them as indicating the progress of the bibliography of the special subject. Thus Pritzel's Thesaurus will always be of interest and importance, for although it will in one sense be superseded in another it will be supplemented by Mr. Daydon Jackson's laborious and valuable "Guide to the Literature of Botany," now printing for the Index Society, which will include 11,000 works, 5,000 of which are not to be found in Pritzel.

The work we propose, therefore, can hardly be said in any way to clash with that which is being done by the British Museum. What is it, then, precisely, that we propose to do, and what is the scope of the proposed undertaking? First, what is meant by our distinction between bibliography and bibliology?

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The term bibliography, we think, is more properly applied to the study of the external forms of books; the term bibliology rather to their essence or intellectual content. Thus, for instance, a list of books printed on vellum, or a list of incunabula, belongs especially to bibliography, while such a book as Mohl's great work on the "Geschichte und Literatur der Staatswissenschaften" (3 vols., Erlangen, 1855–58), which takes account of the substance of books rather than their form, belongs to bibliology. These are types: there are many degrees between them. Many treatises belong to both classes; and to entitle a treatise to belong to bibliology at all, it must take account of books and editions of books as individualities, or it ceases to belong to bibliology proper, and passes into the sphere of literary history or criticism. As to the meaning of the word "special," there can hardly be any difference of opinion. We propose to include in the Index all substantive bibliographies and bibliologies as a matter of course. We propose to add references to all similar lists contributed to such journals as the *Serapeum*, *Petzholdt's Anzeiger*, *Techener's Bulletin*, *Notes and Queries*, *Trübner's Record*, the *Bookseller*, the *Harvard Library Bulletin*, etc., etc. We propose to add, again, those appended to books, such as the list of the writings of Cobbett in Smith's Life of Cobbett, or the list of works by John Evelyn in the recent edition of "Evelyn's Diary." Again, we should propose to add catalogues of special collections, as, *e.g.*, Sir Richard Colt Hoare's catalogue of the Stourhead Library, or Mr. Frost's catalogue of the Ronalds Library, which is more than a catalogue of a special collection. So, too, whenever possible, it might be well to furnish in a foot-note to the particular subject the names of special collectors, so as to concentrate the information on this subject contained in *Notes and Queries* and in our own *Transactions*, as well as elsewhere. It may be more doubtful whether we should include sale catalogues. As a rule we should lean to their exclusion. They are written from a distinct, and that not a scientific standpoint; and, moreover, as the number of genuine bibliographies and bibliologies increases day by day, the books occurring in sale catalogues will by-and-by be covered by lists prepared in a purely literary and bibliographical interest. For the present we must make certain exceptions, *e.g.*, in the case of the Stainforth catalogue of the works of British poetesses, etc. One important question that has been discussed between us is, whether the proposed Index should be confined to English bibliography, or whether it should include foreign bibliography as well. The English portion of the work could be made complete, or all but complete, with a moderate expenditure of labour and printing. If foreign books are included, we must select, in order to bring the work within the limits of feasibility. It may be that it will be better to make the English part of the work as exhaustive as it can be made, and, with regard to the foreign portion, to include as a rule only those bibliographies and bibliologies which are of special value for the particular subject. At the same time it is

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obvious that the usefulness of the Index will be much increased by including all the really first-rate foreign bibliographies. As to the mode of arrangement, we think it should be by an alphabet of subjects, with possibly a tabular conspectus prefixed, so as to collect the more detailed titles and subjects under more general heads. Under each subject the order should perhaps be chronological, so as to show the progress of the bibliography and bibliology of that particular subject, and also to indicate at a glance the latest and presumably the fullest work on the subject. The best book might, moreover, be easily indicated by being printed in a bolder type. A question which we should like to have opinions upon is, whether it would be more convenient to include science and technical matters in the same index with general literature, or to separate them. An independent suggestion was made by Mr. Bailey at Edinburgh for a scientific index, and it may be that it would not only be easier to carry out such a proposal, if dealt with separately, but that it would be more convenient in practice to have this separation. In that case, perhaps Mr. Bailey might consent to edit such an index as a companion to the one now proposed. His index would be even more minute than ours, for he proposes to index even brief lists of books mentioned at the end of the important articles in the Encyclopædias. Since writing thus with regard to Mr. Bailey's proposal, that gentleman has written a letter in which he says:—"I think that for science it would be almost useless to collect only the special bibliologies published in a separate form, as by far the most important lists of books are those generally printed after a special monograph in some of the Scientific Transactions. These generally treat only of one particular subject—say the anatomy of one animal—and this seems to me the most useful part of the index I have started upon, viz., that instead of directing a student to look where he will probably have some difficulty in picking out the books dealing with just the branch he is working at, you send him off at once to a list that contains only books on the subject of his search."

To come now to the mode in which we suggest that the proposed Index should be published, so as to secure the expense of its production and to enlist the sympathies and assistance of those whom it is most important to interest. We propose that the Index should be a joint publication of the two bodies, the Index Society and the Library Association. As each Society now numbers nearly 300 members, that should enable us easily to dispose of a first edition of 750 copies, after allowing for a certain sale to persons and libraries not in union with ourselves. Though that is a matter of detail for the Councils of the two Societies, it must be assumed that the Index will be issued to members of the Index Society as one of the year's publications. That can hardly be so with our own association, and in that case we must put a charge upon the publication, which need not, however, be very high. Why should not the suggested Index be one of a series of publications by the Association, either on its own account or with other Societies? When we have finished our

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Cataloguing rules they might be issued with examples as a separate publication. Some time ago we had some conversation together on the subject of a complete bibliography of Shakespeare, and Mr. Furnivall, who was also spoken to on the subject, expressed his readiness to ask the New Shakspere Society to assist the undertaking by purchasing copies for their members and in other ways. These are but illustrations of what might be done by co-operation. Nor can it be said that these things are beyond the scope of our Association. To begin with, there is the express statement of the original founders and members of the Library Association in their Constitution. Moreover, every good librarian must also be a bibliographer, and must feel interested in any really valuable bibliographical proposal. At all events, we hope to receive from the members of the Library Association, and of the Index Society, not only their approval of this scheme of a joint publication, but also assistance in the construction of this Index. In the matter of substantive bibliographies, we can depend pretty well upon ourselves and such assistance as we can secure personally, and so too with regard to foreign bibliographies. But to get notes of the fugitive bibliographies will be much more difficult, and in this we hope to gain assistance by means of the reading of this paper which we might not otherwise have had. The same is the case, again, to some extent with local publications, such as the bibliographies contained in the Proceedings of such Societies as the Manchester Literary Club. There may be many such lists of which we know nothing, and we shall be glad to hear of them; and we feel that we are justified in asking such assistance by the consciousness that this work when done will at the same time advance the cause of bibliographical research and conduce to the fame of the Library Association.

Discussion.—Mr. H. R. Tedder would have preferred to see a new edition of Petzholdt, completed and brought down to date, but would gladly welcome the proposed Index if it were made thoroughly comprehensive. He objected to the drawing of new and refined distinctions between "bibliology" and "bibliography"; in English dictionaries, moreover, the former word had an additional meaning assigned to it—that of "biblical literature." Mr. Tedder called attention to the similar alphabetical index of bibliology by Gabriel Peignot: "Répertoire Bibliographique Universel, contenant la notice raisonnée des bibliographies spéciales publiées jusqu'à ce jour, et d'un grand nombre d'autres ouvrages de bibliographie relatifs à l'histoire littéraire et à toutes les parties de la Bibliologie." Paris, 1812. 8vo. Ten years before this Peignot had published his "Dictionnaire raisonné de la Bibliologie." Paris, 1802. 3 vols., 8vo.—The Chairman did not think that all lists contained in books on special subjects should be included, for at that rate every animal and every disease would have its special bibliography.—Mr. Nicholson did not see why literary subjects should receive more notice than was given to scientific subjects.—Mr. Frost thought that such a subject as electricity, the science of the future, should certainly be included.—Mr. H. B. Wheatley

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said that he began to collect titles more than twenty years ago. At that time there was no inducement to publish; but lately, on speaking to Mr. Thomas on the subject, he had suggested that there should be a joint publication, and that the subject might be brought before the Association in a paper which he was ready to prepare. It was only by the help of librarians that such a work could be carried out. Many persons would take note of these books if they knew that something of this kind was in progress.—The CHAIRMAN said that of late it had become a common practice for authors to add a bibliographical list of writers on the subject.—Mr. FROST said that there was a very good one of the kind in Anderson's work on Lightning Conductors.—Mr. H. B. WHEATLEY said that in putting their bibliographies together the Museum authorities might well feel that they had done something towards filling the place of the much-asked-for general Index of Literature, but they had not room to include the bibliographies in journals and other volumes.—Mr. OVERALL thought that this was a work in which the Index Society and this Association might well co-operate. Such a work would be most useful to students, and even to librarians, in indicating the best and fullest sources of information. —The CHAIRMAN thought the proposal an important one, and that it would be very useful if it were carried out.—Mr. WELCH thought that this Association and the Index Society had many objects in common, and hoped that other points of co-operation might arise which would benefit both.

A vote of thanks to the writers of the paper was then carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES.

The following new appointments have been made :—

CAMBRIDGE.—The Rev. S. S. LEWIS, Librarian, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, in the place of the Rev. S. Sinker.

OXFORD.—The Rev. W. D. MACRAY, Ducklington Rectory, Witney, jointly with Mr. F. MADAN.

LIBRARY NOTES.

BATH.—The Bath Public Library is now closed. It had been maintained by subscription for three years on condition that the sense of the burgesses should be finally taken this year as to its maintenance by a rate. The decision being adverse the library was closed on the 30th October last.

CAMBRIDGE.—On the occasion of the municipal elections last year the reading-room of the Cambridge Free Library was occupied by order of the Mayor for the purpose of taking a poll. The Library Committee objected to any such action being taken, as in their opinion the Mayor had no authority over the library premises, and

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also because of the inconvenience it would occasion to the numerous persons who used the reading room upon that day. They therefore allowed the use of the rooms under protest, and reported the matter to the Council. From the *Cambridge Chronicle*, of 13th November, 1880, we learn that, at a recent meeting of the Town Council, the Town Clerk brought up and read the following Opinion of Counsel as to the use of the Free Library for a polling place at Parliamentary and municipal elections:—

I gather that the two rooms form part of the Corporate property, and are structurally kept up at the cost of the borough rate. Assuming that this is so, or that the rooms are structurally maintained out of a Public Libraries and Museum Rate, levied under the Public Libraries Acts (and not out of subscriptions or endowments), I am of opinion that the case falls within the express words of sec. 6 of the Ballot Act, and that for Parliamentary elections the returning officer has the right to use the rooms.

With respect to municipal elections the case is different. By section 20 of the Ballot Act s. 6 of the same Act is not to apply to municipal elections. For these elections, therefore, the rooms cannot be used without the consent of the authority having the control of them. It appears to me that the rooms must be taken to be for the time being "appropriated" to Library purposes within the meaning of s. 18 of the Act of 1855. I think further that under s. 21 of the same Act the control of the rooms is for the time being exclusively vested in the Committee, subject only to any reservations made in appointing the Committee, and to any rules and regulations for the time being in force. No such reservations, rules, or regulations, as would reserve to the Council the right of using the rooms for elections, appear to be in force. For these reasons I am of opinion that at present the Library Committee have the right to refuse the use of the rooms for municipal elections, and if the Council desire so to use the rooms against the wish of the Committee, they must, in my opinion, remove the Committee.

If these views are correct, then, *a fortiori*, the Mayor alone has not the power to use the rooms for municipal elections against the wish of the Committee, and without the concurrence of the Council.

20th August, 1880. R. S. Wright.

High Wycombe.—At a town's meeting in November, 1874, it was resolved to found a Free Library on the voluntary system. Later on Mr. J. O. Griffits, Q.C., Recorder of Reading, purchased the old British schools, and altered and enlarged them, offering to maintain a Free Library on part of the premises for three years, if meantime the town would take steps to provide one. The whole building, after some alterations, was formally re-opened on the 29th November last. It is intended, when sufficient funds have been raised, to endow the building and hand it over to the Corporation in trust for the public. Considerable progress has been made towards raising an endowment fund, and the public opening of the library was followed by a large and influential public meeting in aid of this object.

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